



SOCCER ACTION

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603 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne

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Vive la France

From
KNUT
WERNER

FRANCE 1 (Platini 41st) BRAZIL 1 (Careca 13th). France won 4-3 on penalties, World Cup quarter-final in Guadalajara. Referee Ioan Igna (Romania) 7. Penalty scorers: Stopyra, Amoros, Bellone, Fernandez (France); Alemão, Zico, Branco (Braz).

FRANCE: Bats 10 — Amoros 10, Battiston 9, Bosis 9, Tasseau 7, Goleaux 7 (Ferre 84th), Platini 8, Tigana 9, Fernandez 8 — Stopyra 8, Bellone 100th, Stopyra 8. BRAZIL: Carlos 9 — Josimar 8, Julio Cesar 8, Edinho 7, Branco 8 — Alemão 8, Socarras 8, Elio 8, Junior 7 (Silas 36th) — Muller 7 (Zico 5, 71st), Careca 8.
Vive la France! From Nice to Marseilles, from

World Cup games live on ABC-TV.

SEMIFINALS

Argentina v Belgium (Aztec Stadium, Mexico City, TOMORROW (Thursday) 8am.
France v West Germany (Guadalajara, June 25 — TOMORROW (Thursday) 4am.
Third-place Playoff: Puebla, Sunday, 4am.
Final: Aztec Stadium, Mexico City, June 29 — 4am.

Paris to Bordeaux, they're in love with Platini's men — especially Joel Bats and Manuel Amoros who produced two of the finest individual performances of the World Cup so far.

But not only Frenchmen are savoring the style of these swashbuckling romantics.

The whole world sat in awe as the maestros from Europe crossed swords with the bril-



Manuel Amoros

liant Brazilians, masters of the world game for so long.

And having overcome this most daunting of opponents, the French must surely be heading for the ultimate prize — the 1986 World Cup!

If any team beats France, it will do so not because it has superior ability, for there is no such team left in this competition. Only bad luck, or dour defensive tactics will keep the French from the

prize that deserves to be theirs.

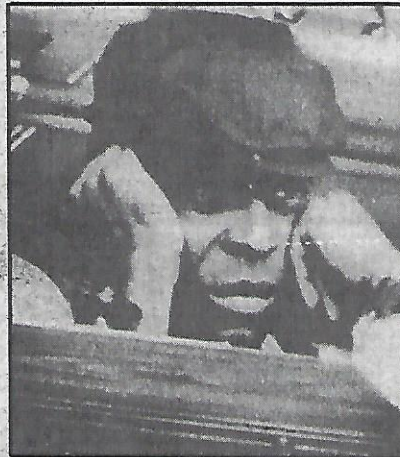
None of the survivors plays soccer like the French. None has their style, their flourish, their artistry, their grace, their inventiveness and, most of all, none has such a glorious collection of brilliant individuals able to draw on almost 60 matches together, to conjure up team-work like this.

There was cheering in the Latin quarter of Paris and a wild concert of car horns on the Champs Elysees.

The game ended just before 11pm Paris time when Luis Fernandez' penalty gave France a 4-3 victory in the shootout, after the team tied at 1-1 in regulation time and a 30-minute overtime.

In bars and restaurants all over the French capital, Parisians crowded around televisions as the teams battled. Television sets are not usual in French cafes and restaurants, but the World Cup has changed that.

Cont. page 2



DEJECTED PELE — his face captures the mood of Brazil's fans.

Iraq goes German, Tele Santana quits

Tele Santana has resigned as manager of Brazil for the second time in four years.

"I am retiring from professional soccer coaching. It is too much of a burden," said the 55-year-old Santana who led Brazil in two World Cup campaigns.

And the Iraq football association (IFA) has sacked its Brazilian coaches after losing all three matches to finish bottom of its World Cup soccer group.

The federation has decided to switch to the German school of football, away from the Brazilian style and recruit German coaches.

Centre back Julio Cesar, who missed the last Brazilian penalty, said he was not bothered at all by his error.

"When Tele (Santana) ordered me to take one of the shots I immediately agreed because a player has to take risks. I don't feel guilty," he said.

Midfielder Faicao, frustrated because he would probably never win a World Cup title now, spoke for the whole squad when he said he was proud to have played against France.

"We were great against a great team. It was a game to remember."

Iraq has made an extensive study of the style of soccer in the Soviet Union, West Germany, France, Yugoslavia, Italy and England. It decided to adopt the German school because "it represents both strength and technique."

Hellas wants Woodcock

South Melbourne Hellas has made approaches to Paul Mariner, Tony Woodcock and Mick Flanagan.

The club is determined to sign a top-class attacking partner for Charlie Egan.

Meanwhile, Cyprus-based former Hellas star Oscar Crino, holidaying in Melbourne, has had big offers from Greece but hopes to join a Spanish club instead.

Hellas team manager Pierre Pallas contacted Mariner, the Arsenal striker who is in New Zealand as co-host of a TV network's World Cup coverage.

Mariner declined, saying he had various offers in England.

He urged Pallas to contact Arsenal's Tony Woodcock, (ex-Cologne) who would be interested in playing here.

Flanagan, now with Charlton Athletic and previously with Crystal Palace and QPR, wants to play in Australia. About \$2 million has been paid for him in transfer fees, and although he is 34, he is still a top player, having scored 182 goals in 541 English League games.

Hellas coach John Margaritis spoke to Flanagan who, however, wants about \$1000 a game.

Meanwhile, Mariner has revealed that Arsenal's Scottish international Charlie Nicholas will soon join Liverpool.



Tony Woodcock

Soccercricket, soccergolf

Soccer will be developed among Victorian primary school children through cricket, golf, squash, volleyball and tunnelball.

It's a revolutionary way of spreading the soccer gospel, masterminded by Victorian director of coaching, Tim White.

So appealing is his plan, that the Department of Youth, Sport and Recreation immediately made him a \$7000 grant to launch his programme.

The idea is to encourage children to become interested in soccer by helping them develop soccer skills almost inadvertently. You simply introduce a soccer ball to other sports activities in which the children or the teachers may be interested.

And both girls as well as boys can take part.

Hence, you'll find children playing soccer golf (hitting targets with a soccer ball around a designated course), soccer cricket (you can "catch" a man out by controlling the ball on the full), skittle soccer (knocking down opponent's skittles with the ball) or soccer squash (bouncing it off the wall).

Every game is outlined on a plastic-coated

card which can be kept on file by physical education teachers at primary schools.

The cards, in various colors, have been produced by the Bendigo Education Resource Centre in association with the Catholic Education Office (Sandhurst Diocese).

A videotape explaining the concept and carrying a recommendation from the Minister of Youth, Sport and Recreation, Neil Trezise, also has been produced.

In primary schools, most phys. ed. teachers are ladies and they've been asking the Victorian Soccer Federation for help," Tim White said.

"We've simply looked at the games kids like to play, and introduced a soccer ball to them."

"And it's all set out on handy cards that the teachers can refer to. It's very simple and very effective."

Another set of cards, outlining the skills of soccer and exercises to develop those skills, also has been produced. They are aimed at secondary schools and clubs.

White hopes to sell these cards to clubs to generate funds to produce more of the primary school cards.

Morocco wants World Cup

Morocco, the first African country to reach the second round of the World Cup finals, now wants to stage the event.

A full application will go in soon, probably for the 2002 World Cup.

Morocco will be supported by Arabs, Africans and the Third World in its application.

Italy is hosting the 1990 World Cup.

Morocco organised the Mediterranean Games in 1983 and the Pan-Arab Games last year and is well equipped with hotels and sporting facilities, with large stadiums in Casablanca and Rabat.

the opening minutes of the match, Peru's forwards twice snuffed easy scoring chances in front of an open goal.

The Peruvian team manager used four inexperienced substitutes in the course of the game and decided for no clear reason, to move one of his defensive players forward as a striker.

The Argentinian junta was under strong attack at the time for its abuses in the "dirty war" in which more than 12,500 people disappeared. It hoped that if it were able to bask in the reflected glory of a World Cup victory, its political popularity would rise.

Argentina's \$72 mil. bribe

"The Sunday Times" has unearthed new evidence that Argentina won the 1978 World Cup after bribing Peru to lose an earlier game.

With Argentina needing to win by at least four goals against Peru to pip Brazil for a place in the 1978 World Cup final, it has been learnt that the match was fixed on the orders of the military junta in Buenos Aires.

The bribe to Peru was paid in two forms. First, Argentina shipped 35,000 tonnes of free grain to the Peruvian port of El Callao on two ships that arrived in July and August 1978. Then the Argentinian Cen-

tral Bank agreed to extend a \$US50 million (\$72 million) line of credit to Peru.

Details of the deal have been provided by a former senior civil servant who worked for the Argentinian junta and two football officials. All three wish to remain anonymous.

They have claimed that the junta, headed by General Jorge Videla, fixed the match to ensure that Argentina, the host country, reached the World Cup final.

The match against Peru was fixed after direct negotiations between the Argentinian and Peruvian governments.

The sources have claimed that the detailed transaction was arranged between Admi-

ral Carlos Lacoste, then the Argentinian vice-president of the international football organisation, FIFA, and three senior Peruvian officials.

Admiral Lacoste is now facing charges of embezzlement for diverting funds from Ente Aduanico Mundial, an Argentinian organisation set up to build new stadiums and run the World Cup matches.

Details of the bribe are contained in the records of Argentina's Central Bank, which "The Sunday Times" has inspected, although the records do not explain why the money was suddenly made available to Peru.

The bribe clearly worked. In



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Time to get drunk: Casagrande

From page one

The city outside seemed quasi-deserted, but it exploded into life moments after the game ended, cars touring the streets with blaring horns and huge French flags held out the windows.

"On a gagne (we won)" was the universal cry. The crowd in the Latin Quarter's Le Ballo cheered from the start, singing La Marseillaise in full voice. Rare passers-by poked their heads in asking: "What's the score?"

The crowd groaned when, as the match was starting, the television switched to Paris Orly airport to show French

hostages arriving home from Lebanon.

"It's a good thing France didn't score a goal then," said an American tourist intrigued by the spectacle.

Brazil, meanwhile, was angry that the referee allowed France's third penalty in the shoot-out.

The penalty, taken by substitute Bruno Bellone, rebounded into the net off Brazilian goalkeeper Carlos after hitting a post.

The Brazilians claim that the ball was dead once it hit the post and the goal should not have been allowed by Romanian official Ioan Igna.

Unlike in 1982, when Brazil was eliminated following a 3-2 defeat by Italy, the players looked surprisingly at ease in the camp three hours after the match.

They faced their elimination with equanimity, considering it a natural consequence of misfortune and the enormous potential of their French squad.

"When God does not want it, nothing will happen. His plans are not always the same as ours," said 28-year-old substitute Silas, who is Nazarene Baptist.

Careca, who scored five goals in as many games, was one of the most disappointed players in the squad.

"My head is still burning, please don't ask me anything," he said as he prepared for a night out with teammate Walter Casagrande.

Casagrande in his turn said this was not a time for talking "but a time to drown your sorrows and get drunk."

Soccer idol Pele summed up the country's feelings: "It's so really very sad. It made me want to cry," he said.

Men like Junior, Brazil's Italian-based midfielder whose 32nd birthday celebrations are certain to be muted as they fall on World Cup final day, know all that is left now is to seek glory at club level.

He said: "For a whole generation the last hope of winning the World Cup has gone out of the window."

"It's so cruel. This was the crunch match, the real final. France must win the trophy now."

Zico, an idol who passed the 700 goal mark in his career under four months ago, faces the music back home after his missed penalty in the 74th minute, a couple of minutes after coming on as a substitute, proved the turning point in the match.

The 33-year-old, who then converted his penalty in the shoot-out just to add to his frustration, sought no excuses but said simply:

"France must know just how we feel. They went through it in Seville four years ago. These penalty shoot-outs are just like Russian roulette."

Defender Branco, who, at 22, still has more World Cup chances to come, added a warning for France as he said: "The favorites like the Soviet Union, Denmark and now we have all gone out one after the other. So why shouldn't France go the same way?"

Four years ago in Spain, West Germany emerged triumphant over Spain from a semi-final after spot kicks were used to separate teams for the first time in World Cup history.

France were the unlucky ones, losing the shoot-out 5-4 when a pulsating game ended 3-3 after extra time.



French fans, their faces painted in the colors of their flag, display a banner wishing Michel Platini a happy birthday. He turned 31 on quarter-final day.

This time France earned the chance of revenge for that defeat by sinking Brazil in Guadalajara. But they had to thank two pieces of good fortune after 120 minutes of superlative soccer.

AS 24 exhausted players gathered in the penalty area, Brazil's manager Tele Santana chose Socrates, whose penalty technique is close to an art form, to take the first kick.

The doctor eased upfield, took his normal two steps and stunned the green and yellow bedecked stadium by hitting a tame shot which French goalkeeper Joel Bats was able to punch away.

Five kicks later, France's Bruno Bellone stepped up and slammed his kick against the post. But dismay turned quickly to joy as the ball rebounded off keeper Carlos's back into the net.

France could even allow themselves the luxury of a miss by their birthday boy, captain Michel Platini, as Julio Cesar ended his impressive tournament in sorry fashion by hitting the post from Brazil's final effort.

In a match when cliches like "neither side deserved to lose" aptly summed up the occasion, Brazil showed they had not learned the lesson of their defeat in the 1982 finals.

In that second round match, which Italy won 3-2, they allowed their opponents back into the game through overconfidence. They appeared to believe they had already won when granted a penalty in the 75th minute with the score at 1-1.

Both teams had chances in extra time, but neither could break the deadlock.

Goal-scoring Senor started Spain off on the right track when he beat Belgian goalkeeper Pfaff with the first penalty. Belgium's Rico Claesen returned the compliment with a shot into the left corner which made it 1-1.

Then disaster struck for Spain when Eloy, at 21 Spain's youngest player, shot without sufficient force and Pfaff pounced to save.

The remaining penalties were all converted with remarkable assurance.

Chendo, Emilio Butragueno and Victor followed Eloy's miss by burying the ball past Pfaff. But it was not enough as Enzo Scifo, Hugo Broos, Patrick Vervoort and, finally and triumphantly, Leo Van der Elst were successful for Belgium.

Van der Elst, who had come on at the beginning of the second half of extra time for the hard-running Franky Vercauteren, drove his shot low and hard and was mobbed by his jubilant teammates. The "Furia" of Spain had been tamed.



Jan Ceulemans — Belgium's captain.

Back-flip, airplane and a naked belly

Long after the goals at this year's World Cup finals have been forgotten, people may well reminisce about what happened after them.

Nowadays, the celebrations of goalscorers are often more colorful than the goals themselves.

Gone are the days when a goalscorer received a quick handshake from his teammates as he trotted back to the centre circle for the restart.

In the modern game the commemoration of a goal has become almost a religious ritual and players have developed their individual ways of expressing their joy.

At the Mexico World Cup, these expressions have reached new heights, or sunk to new depths, depending on taste. Here is a selection of the best of the apes-goes:

CARECA of Brazil — Came up with a new one after scoring against Poland. It appears to be an aeroplane imitation like a

Leading World Cup scorers after the completion of the quarter-finals:

6 — Gary Lineker (England).
5 — Emilio Butragueno (Spain), Careca (Brazil).
4 — Preben Elkjaer (Denmark), Sandro Altobelli (Italy), Igor Belanov (Soviet Union).

3 — Jorge Valdano (Argentina), Jesper Olsen (Denmark), Diego Maradona (Argentina).
2 — Julio Romero (Paraguay), Ivan Yaremchuk (Soviet Union), Klaus Allofs (West Germany), Fernando Quirarte (Mexico), Roberto Cabanas (Paraguay), Abderrazak Khattabi (Morocco), Ramon Caldera (Spain), Yannick Stopyra (France), Enzo Scifo (Belgium), Nico Claesen (Belgium), Josimar (Brazil), Socrates (Brazil), Michel Platini (France), Jan Ceulemans (Belgium).

child playing at being a 747, arms held horizontally and a zig-zag run.

HUGO SANCHEZ of Mexico — Ten out of ten for Hugo for his trademark "hook-nobands" somersault flip which he used after scoring against Belgium. But judges might dock some style points for the booking he received when he kicked the ball into the crowd after Fernando Quirarte's goal in the same game.

LUIS FLORES of Mexico — Likes to lift his jersey high, revealing his stomach, as he does a hair-lap around the pitch. No-one quite

knows why, although women fans say he has a very attractive stomach.

JULIO ROMERO of Paraguay — For Romero, as he is known, it was the dramatic knee slide towards the touchline after he scored against Mexico. This one's alright on grass but children who play football in the streets are not advised to copy it.

JOSIMAR of Brazil — Went for the ice-hockey knees-up after scoring against Poland. This one's getting old hat. It was used by several players, including West Germany's Lothar

Mattheus and Bulgaria's Nasko Sirakov. Sirakov gave it that little bit extra by jumping over the advertising hoardings afterwards.

EDINHO of Brazil — After scoring against Poland, Edinho launched into a skip — the sort of thing children do on the way back from school when they know they have no homework.

FERNANDO QUIRARTE of Mexico — Fernando must have seen videos of Italy's Marco Tardelli in the 1982 final. For him, after scoring against Belgium, it was the clenched-fist run with arms apart and mouth wide open in a silent scream.

SOCRATES of Brazil — For Dr Socrates, simply the majestic trot back to the centre circle, one finger aloft, after his philosophically-taken penalty kick against Poland.

ALTABELLI of Italy — The exception to the rule. After his four goals in these finals, he managed to retain his face of stone. Could he not at least have managed a small smile?

GORDON STRACHAN of Scotland — Gets the prize for the best sense of humor after scoring against West Germany. Scotland's only goal of the finals.

In a self-mocking gesture, the diminutive redhead pretended he was trying to jump the advertising board just like the big boys do. As a joke he stopped with one leg over, pretending he was stuck.

Unfortunately, the referee did not see the funny side. He booked the Scot for wasting time.

Belgium 1 (Ceulemans 34th) SPAIN 1 (Senor 84th), Belgium won 5-4 on penalties after extra time, World Cup quarter-final in Puebla. Penalty scorers: Senor, Chendo, Butragueno, Victor (Sp.); Claesen, Scifo, Broos, Vervoort, van der Elst (Belg.). Referee: Siegfried Kirschen (W. Germ.).

Belgium: Pfaff 10 — Gerets 9, de Mol 8, Renquin 9, Vervoort 9 — Scifo 8, Grun 9, Ceulemans 8, Vercauteren 7 (L. van der Elst 106th) — Veyt 7 (Broos 84th), Claesen 8.

Spain: Zubizarreta 9 — Chendo 7, Camacho 8, Gallego 8, Tomas 6 (Senor 9, 46th) — Michel 8, Victor 9, Caldera 9, Julio Alberto 8 — Butragueno 8, Salinas 6 (Eloy 7, 64th).

Jean-Marie Pfaff of Zeyern Munich maintained what has become a tradition of brilliant goalkeeping in this World Cup by hoisting Belgium into the semi-finals. He played flawlessly during the 120 minutes and then saved Eloy Olaya's penalty in the shoot-out.

Spain did most of the pressing, but its attacks were bite and its finishing was often awry, whereas Belgium always looked dangerous when it broke on counter-attacks.



Belgium goalkeeper Jean-Marie Pfaff

Spain, European champion runner-up in 1984; attacked from the start with Butragueno, four-goal hero of the 5-1 second-round victory over highly-rated Denmark, lurking as a constant threat.

Belgium bided its time and was rewarded in the 35th minute. Vercauteren supplied a cross from near the left corner flag and Ceulemans plunged forward to head home.

Spain sought the equaliser with mounting desperation, while Belgium, with Ceulemans always at the heart of its endeavours, launched dangerous counter-thrusts.

Spain hauled itself back into

the match with barely five minutes of normal time remaining. Victor, increasingly an assertive influence on the game, pulled a free-kick from near the right corner flag back into the path of Senor who fired a scorching left-footed drive from 25 metres into the net.

Belgium's semi-final against Argentina in the Aztec Stadium Tomorrow (Thursday) will be a repeat of the opening match of the 1982 finals which the Belgians won 1-0, their only previous World Cup meeting.

Both teams had chances in extra time, but neither could break the deadlock.

Goal-scoring Senor started Spain off on the right track when he beat Belgian goalkeeper Pfaff with the first penalty. Belgium's Rico Claesen returned the compliment with a shot into the left corner which made it 1-1.

Then disaster struck for Spain when Eloy, at 21 Spain's youngest player, shot without sufficient force and Pfaff pounced to save.

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Jan Ceulemans — Belgium's captain.

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Schumacher shatters a nation's dream

WEST GERMANY 0 MEXICO 0, West Germany won 4-1 on penalties, World Cup quarter-final in Monterrey. Referee Jesus Diaz (Colombia) 8. Penalty scorers: Alfons, Brehme, Matthaeus, Littbarski (W. Ger.); Negrete (Mex.).

WEST Germany: Schumacher 9 — Berthold 7 (sent off 68th), Forster 9, Jakobs 7, Brehme 8 — Matthaeus 6, Magath 7, Eder 6 (Littbarski 125th), Briegel 5 — Rummenigge 5 (Hoeness 4, 58th), Alfons 7.

MEXICO: Larios 6 — Servin 7, Quirarte 6, Felix Cruz 8, Amador 6 (Francisco Cruz 6, 71st) — Boy 7 (de los Cobos 7, 35th), Munoz 6, Negrete 7, Aguirre 7 (sent off 112th), Espinosa 6, Sanchez 6.

Karl-Heinz Rummenigge has done practically nothing yet; Hans-Peter Briegel is in no way the world-class player we had expected; the midfield, led lamely by Felix Magath, is pedestrian, and yet West Germany has made it at least into the semi-finals.

Mexico disappointed its home crowd, but it played with a lot more flair than the Germans did.

While Boris Milutinovic, the Mexican boss, was drowning his sorrows, Franz Beckenbauer must have been negotiating bonuses for goalkeeper Toni Schumacher and centre back Karl-Heinz Foerster, the heroes for Germany.

In a match that ended with 10 a side, after Berthold (laughably) and Aguirre had been sent off, Schumacher saved twice, from Quirarte and Servin in the penalties showdown and Foerster was unshakable in the middle of the defence.

Crestfallen Mexicans dig their best to digest the dramatic defeat which brought a three-week national holiday to a shuddering stop.

It was almost an act of televised self-destruction and was witnessed with horror by the entire country.

Two Mexican players made a horrible mess of their penalties, while their West German opponents clinically converted theirs, ignoring whistles and jeers intended to disconcert them.

The cruel shoot-out ended the quarter-final match and brusquely awoke millions of Mexicans from a dream of success which had grown more real by the day.

Faced with mounting economic and social problems, which have quickly sent living standards spiralling down, even those with no interest in soccer were entranced by their team's victories in the past time weeks.

Wild scenes in the capital and major cities greeted previous triumphs and even President Miguel de la Madrid was seen to sing along last week with Mexico's unofficial anthem, more famous by a brewery advertisement.

In Cuernavaca, a southern suburb of the capital, about 5,000 people converged to watch one of the three giant open-air television screens constructed for the cup.

A mournful wall rose from hundreds of plastic trumpets as full-back Ralf Servin fluffed his penalty, dooming the team.

"I knew it, I knew it, I knew it," muttered one young man in abject dejection as he joined the tide of people turning their backs on the screen and starting to trudge home.

All over the city, souvenir sellers were rapidly lowering their prices for Mexico T-shirts and trinkets.

"We must learn from this," said a television commentator. "Now we must look to the economic crisis. There we must triumph. There we must take our penalties well."

Schumacher did much to repair his international image, damaged by an appalling flop in the World Cup semi-finals four years ago.

Schumacher received huge cheers from the Monterrey crowd when he helped Mexican striker Hugo Sanchez, who was suffering from cramp during extra time of their quarter-final tie.

Sanchez lay on the ground just outside the West German penalty area for several minutes while play went on.

But at the first opportunity, Schumacher came out of his goal to stretch Sanchez's leg, easing the pain, until the Mexican could be taken off for treatment.

The West German goalkeeper earned a reputation for bad sportsmanship during the 1982 tournament in Spain when he rushed out of his goal and charged headlong into French player Patrick Battiston.

Battiston ended up in hospital and Schumacher at first refused to apologise.

West German newspapers crowned goalkeeper Toni Schumacher "the hero of Monterrey".

"Thanks Toni!" ran the headline in "Bild am Sonntag". "Welt am Sonntag" declared Schumacher a hero and added: "These were the happiest moments in Toni Schumacher's life".

Both newspapers, usually printed by early Saturday evening, extended their deadlines to wait the outcome of the match.

The result appeared to have ended for the moment a run of press criticism about West Germany's performance which reached its nadir after the side scrambled a 1-0 win over Morocco to reach the quarter-finals.

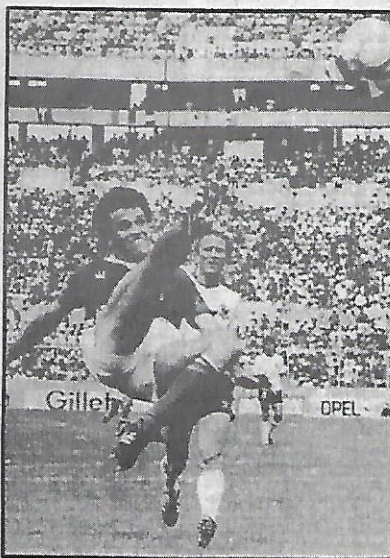
Team manager Franz Beckenbauer was quoted in an interview with "West am Sonntag" as saying he would have resigned if West Germany failed to reach the last eight. "It's normal. If you have no success you have to go," he said.

Milutinovic was given an ovation by Mexican reporter when he came into the post-match news conference. They cheered him again and chanted his name when he left.

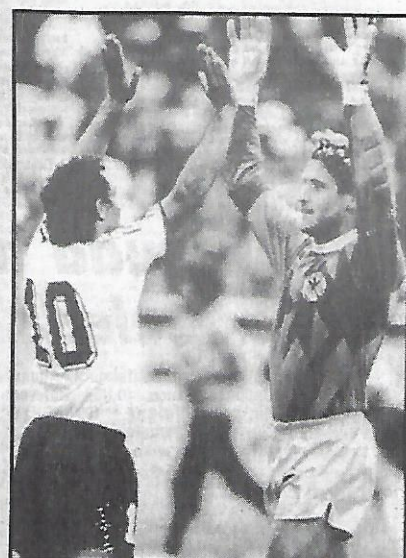
He said: "We began our preparations for the World Cup in Monterrey and so our campaign has ended here as well. My players have done their best but sometimes it is difficult to give the fans what they want."

"I must congratulate the German team on what they have achieved in reaching the semi-finals but we are sad to go out on penalties. It is unfortunate to lose in such a way but several very fine players have missed penalties today including Zico and Michel Platini, who is one of the best players in the world."

"I am going to go home now and I will spend some time with my baby and relaxing."



● Javier Aguirre of Mexico clears in front of Andreas Brehme before being sent off.



● German midfielder Felix Magath (left) congratulates Harald Schumacher on his two penalty saves.

Maradona: a live hand grenade

Shirt numbers

Squads of the remaining World Cup teams, with shirt numbers in brackets:

ARGENTINA: Sergio Almirón (1), Sergio Batista (2), Ricardo Bochini (3), Claudio Borghi (4), Jose Luis Brown (5), Daniel Passarella (6), Jorge Burruchaga (7), Nestor Clausen (8), Jose Cuciuffo (9), Diego Maradona (10), Jorge Valdano (11), Hector Enrique (12), Oscar Garre (13), Ricardo Gusti (14), Luis Islas (15), Julio Olarticochea (16), Pedro Pasculli (17), Nery Pumpido (18), Oscar Ruggeri (19), Daniel Tapia (20), Marcelo Trebbiani (21), Hector Zevala (22).

ENGLAND: Shilton 6 — Gary Stevens (Everton) 5, Fenwick 5, Butcher 8, Sanson 7 — Hoddle 7, Trevor Steven 6 (Barnes 75th), Reid 5 (Waddle 65th min), Hodge 5, Linaker 6, Beardsley 5.

ARGENTINA — Pumpido 6, Cuciuffo 7, Ruggeri 7, Brown 6, Olarticochea 6 — Gusti 6, Batista 6, Enrique 6 — Maradona 9, Burruchaga 7 (Tapia 76th), Valdano 5.

Dealing with Maradona was always going to be a problem. Tackling him within scoring range was akin to challenging someone carrying a live hand grenade — hit or miss, the result was always likely to be explosive.

Not that Argentina came equipped to mount an immediate offensive, starting the game with Pasculli, a striker, on the bench, and Enrique recalled to stiffen the midfield. With Fenwick back after suspension and Reid hit, England began with the side that had beaten Poland 3-0 in Monterrey.

The second half began with an isolated outburst of fighting at one end of the stadium where English and Argentinian supporters had been singing in more or less peaceful co-existence.

First he ploughed into the heart of the England defence before laying the ball off to his right. It came off Hodge and looped into the air, Maradona reacted first and as he went up for it with Shilton he appeared to knock it over the goalkeeper with a hand.

However, if there was any doubt about that goal there was absolutely none about the next. After collecting the ball wide on the right Maradona went through the English defence with such speed and skill that he left a trail of fallen players behind him. Stevens was beaten by a subtle swerve, Butcher by a swerve of the hips and Fenwick with contemptuous ease before Maradona finally slipped the ball past Shilton, Bobby Robson had said beforehand that Maradona was capable of winning a game on his own in five minutes and now, to England's cost, the little man had taken him at his word.

All England could do now was throw everything into attack and with Waddle and Barnes replacing Reid and Steven this is what they did.

England went out bravely and even took the usual savagery of the game after Linaker had met a cross from Barnes nine minutes from the end to score his sixth goal of the competition. With three minutes to go he was only inches away from repeating the feat although in between times Tapia had hit a post for Argentina. In the end few could deny that the win-

ARGENTINA 2 (Maradona 51st, 55th) ENGLAND 1 (Linaker 81st), World Cup quarter-final in Mexico City. Referee: Ali Ben Naceur (Tunisia) 5.

ENGLAND — Shilton 6 — Gary Stevens (Everton) 5, Fenwick 5, Butcher 8, Sanson 7 — Hoddle 7, Trevor Steven 6 (Barnes 75th), Reid 5 (Waddle 65th min), Hodge 5, Linaker 6, Beardsley 5.

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● Under relentless questioning, Diego Maradona admits he punched the ball into England's goal.

ners had given a thoroughly professional performance. Maradona admitted that he handled the ball in scoring the first of his two goals.

Under relentless questioning from newsmen after the match, Maradona acknowledged with a smile that the controversial goal was scored "a little with the hand of Diego and a little with the head of Maradona."

Referee Ali Ben Naceur of Tunisia allowed the goal in the 51st minute. Maradona scored his second goal four minutes later.

The illegal goal did not dampen Bobby Robson's praise for the little Argentine star. "Maradona is marvelous for football. I didn't like the second goal but I admired it," he said with a grin.

Robson described Maradona's second effort as a "miracle goal, magnificent. It was one of the most brilliant goals you'll ever see."

"We didn't do as well as we would have liked in the first hour but we were not lacking in fighting spirit," Robson said. "I must give credit to the Argentine midfielder who compressed us well. We were unable to move as we would have liked."

Argentine manager Carlos Bilardo was reluctant to single out Maradona as the game's star but said: "What one has to praise about Maradona is his contribution to the team."

"Being the only South American side left in the Cup is a responsibility. But we are going to play as we have done so far."

Commenting on Maradona's second goal, Bilardo said he had been unable to stop himself from jumping up and shouting "Goal!" "It was only the second time in my life I had done that," he added.

The first was in Buenos Aires last year after one of the goals against Peru which put Argentina in the finals.

Bilardo concluded by saying: "Maradona also provides great support for their players off the pitch. He is a true guiding light and idol."

Although Argentina's defence must be given credit for marking England out of the first half, the difference between the two sides was basically one man — Maradona.

With big Real Madrid striker Jorge Valdano having an off day, Maradona not only controlled the midfield but looked by far the most dangerous attacker. Some 75,000 fans — the authorities announced an official attendance of 114,500 but this appeared to refer to tickets sold — cheered in expectation every time the little man got the ball.

Thousands of Argentines were out in the rainy streets of Buenos Aires honking horns, waving flags and throwing confetti to celebrate Argentina's win.

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Josimar wants a rise

Years of midfield experience have paid off for Josimar in the World Cup where the lanky Brazilian defender scored two of the tournament's most impressive goals.

Josimar got the second goal in Brazil's 4-0 victory over Poland, sprinting past one defender and then working around two more before hitting an angled shot past the goalkeeper and into the roof of the net.

In Brazil's 3-0 win over Northern Ireland, Josimar collected the ball 30-metres out and blasted a drive over Pat Jennings and into the top right hand corner of the net.

Josimar is a tenacious marker and a durable zone player who moves up faster than most defenders when he sees an opportunity.

Josimar, 24, also plays full back for Brazil's First-Division Botafogo of Rio.

However, during his formative years in the lower divisions he played in the midfield.



Uwe Seeler

Zmuda matches Seeler's record

BRAZIL 4 (Socrates 30th min pen, Josimar 54th, Edinho 77th, Careca 83rd pen). POLAND 0, second round match

in Guatimalajara. Attendance: 40,000. Referee: Volker Roth (W Germany).

BRAZIL: Carlos — Josimar



Uruguay's Nelson Gutierrez (right) tries unsuccessfully to foil Diego Maradona.

'Maradona our heart and soul': Bilardo

ARGENTINA 1 (Pasculli 40th) URUGUAY 0, second-round match in Puebla. Crowd 26,000. Referee Luigi Agnoli (Italy) 10.

ARGENTINA: Pumpido 7 — Cuccillo 7, Brown 8, Ruggeri 7, Garra 8 — Giusi 7, Batista 8 (Olaricochea 35th), Burruchaga 8, Pasculli 8 — Maradona 9, Valdano 7.

URUGUAY: Alvarez 8 — Bossio 7, Gutierrez 8, Acevedo 8 (Paz 60th), Pereyra 8 — Rivero 6, Ramos 7, Cabrera 6 (Da Silva 7, 46th), Barrios 7, Santin 7 — Francescoli 8.

The closest fist that is Maradona, punched hole after hole in Uruguay's defence but goalkeeper Fernando Alvez managed to plug all but one.

Uruguay, which once promised so much, headed home without having won a single World Cup match.

The man who made the difference was "Maestro" Diego Maradona and Argentina manager Carlos Bilardo set the little magician up on a pedestal when he said: "Today Diego Maradona was an example for all youth in Argentina."

"The youngsters back at home can be proud and should try to follow in his footsteps."

"He was the heart and soul of the team," said Bilardo. "But the first thing I did after the game was to congratulate all my players."

"I know how much tension there is when we play Uruguay, but they all managed to play it down."

Maradona did everything but score a goal. That feat was achieved by Pedro Pasculli four minutes from half-time.

But the 25-year-old captain was a tireless provider, feeding a superb cross for Valdano, who should have headed an opening goal in the 11th minute, and supplying countless bullets which Pasculli contrived to misfire throughout the rest of the game.

Argentine sports columnists later criticised Uruguayan coach Omar Borrás for allowing his team to play soccer in the World Cup only when it was too late.

"Borrás remembered that the object was playing soccer when all was lost," Clarín newspaper columnist Juan de Biase said.

"He sent in 'Pollita' Da Silva and Ruben Paz (both attackers), without having dared to do it from the beginning, having put all of his cards on a strictly defensive game," de Biase said.

"Le Nación" columnist Ernesto Muniz said once Paz came on in the second half, the Uruguayans began to break through the Argentine defence from the wings and threatened a goal two minutes from time on a shot by Enzo Francescoli.

Muniz said Borrás had "without explanation" overlooked Paz in Uruguay's previous matches.

The match ended in near farce as driving rain, thunder and lightning made play almost impossible.

Pasculli scored the game's only goal in the 42nd minute. Argentina launched a move down the right.

The ball was driven into the area where Uruguayan defender Eduardo Acevedo misread striker Jorge Valdano's challenge and hit the ball into the path of Pasculli, who guided the ball home from six metres.

The goal followed constant Argentine pressure with Maradona carving openings on both sides of the Uruguayan defence.

Maradona, closely marked by his opposing captain Jorge Barrios, made one brilliant run after only 10 minutes but his pinpoint centre was wasted by Valdano.

Ten minutes later he hit the bar with a thunderous 30-metre free kick which left Alvez hopelessly beaten, and later had a goal disallowed.

Coach Tele Santana, who is usually stingy with praise, paid tribute to Josimar's versatility, both in defence and on the attack.

Josimar is a really good player, who is in really good shape, despite the fact that he hasn't been playing for three months," Santana said.

Josimar, who comes from Rio de Janeiro, has not seen action with Botafogo since early April because of a contract dispute.

He is now earning about \$US1,000 (\$A1,447) a month and wants to triple that amount.

He worked out on his own during that time, hoping for the call from Santana.

Santana asked Josimar to join the squad only in the last month of preparations, after defender Leandro quit in anger.

Leandro withdrew, after Santana decided to cut Renato, whom he considered a good right-winger but lacking in defence.

Leandro and Renato are close friends.

Edinho, Juho, Cosar, Branco Alemão, Junior, Socrates (Zico 70th), Elzo — Muller (Silas 74th min), Careca.

POLAND: Mlynarczyk — Przybyla (Furtok 60th), Ostrowski, Wojcicki, Tarsawski, Jan Urban (Zmuda 83rd min), Karas, Majewski, Smolarek, Boniek, Dziakowski.

Wladyslaw Zmuda, Poland's veteran defender, came on as a substitute to equal Uwe Seeler's record of 21 appearances in World Cup finals matches.

Zmuda, 32, played in the 1974, 1978 and 1982 series and when he came on against Brazil it was his 32nd cap.

Brazilian coach Tele Santana said the victory was by far his teams hardest to that stage.

Santana said Poland's early pressure unsettled Brazil.

"We gave them too much space. It was not a good first half for Brazil," he said.

"In the second half with a one-goal advantage our team looked more determined."

"After our second goal the Polish team surrendered, giving us enough space to have scored even more goals than we did."

Polish coach Antoni Piechniczek said that even though he did not agree with the first-half penalty he thought Brazil was just too strong and it did not change the result of the match.

Santana's 1986 Brazilians may not possess all the ballistics grace of their illustrious 1958, 1962 and 1970 predecessors but there is still no finer sight in football than the famous yellow and blue strip in full flow.

Goals by Socrates, from the 30th minute penalty, Josimar (54th min), Edinho (77th min) and Careca, with another penalty seven minutes from time eventually made short work of the Poles.

Zico was outstanding when he came on as substitute 20 minutes from time.

Brazil went ahead when Polish midfielder Jan Karas was adjudged to have impeded Careca as the Brazilian striker moved in menacingly on goal.

Although an indirect free kick for obstruction might have been a fairer sentence, Socrates made the most of his opportunity by shuffling elegantly up to the spot and blasting the ball past Polish goalkeeper Jozef Mlynarczyk.

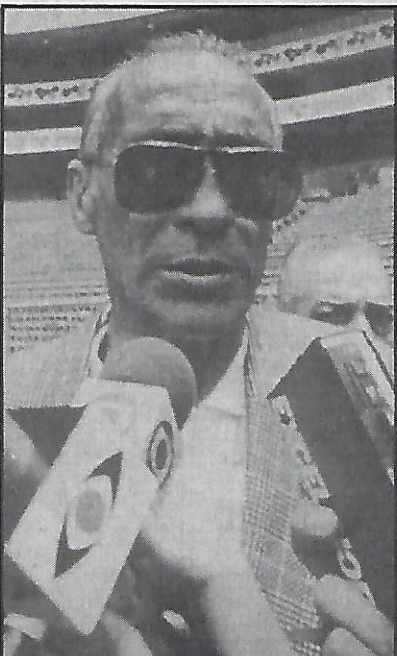
If Brazil's opener was clouded in doubt, their second was straight out of the Rio De Janeiro school of classics.

Full back Josimar decided to treat the crowd to a vintage feast of Brazilian artistry.

Bored with his defensive duties, Josimar collected a loose ball in midfield, danced past three Polish defenders and lashed the ball high into the far corner of the net from an outrageously acute angle.

Not to be outdone, central defender and captain Edinho added the third with a coolly taken goal by shooting directly after a flowing move he had started five passes earlier in his own penalty area.

With Zico on in place of the tiring Socrates, Brazil rounded off the scoring in fitting fashion when the great man in the famous number 10 shirt was tripped in the box after a dazzling solo run and Careca slotted home with consummate ease from the spot.



Italy's coach Enzo Bearzot answers questions on the way home. Is his reign over?

Rocheteau: shrewdest forward in the Cup

FRANCE 2 (Platini 15th, Stopyra 57th) ITALY 0 at Olympic Stadium, Mexico City. Crowd 71,449. Referee Carlos Esposito (Argentina).

FRANCE: Bata 7 — Ayache 8, Bossis 8, Battiston 8, Amoros 7 — Fernandez 9, Tussseau 74th, Tigana 7, Giresse 8, Platini 9 (Ferrari 35th) — Rocheteau 8, Stopyra 7.

ITALY: Galli 7 — Bermogi 7, Vierchowod 7, Scirea 7, Cani 8 — Bares 6, Gennaro 6 (46th min), Bagni 6, de Napoli 8, Conti 6 — Altobelli 6, Galdieri 6 (Vialli 58th).

French team chief Henri Michel declined to draw a comparison between himself, at 38, one of the younger breed of coaches, and Enzo Bearzot, 59-year-old representative of the older generation.

"I have too much respect for Monsieur Bearzot to make a judgement on him," he said.

France's win was its first over Italy in official competition.

"To beat the world champions, that's important. It's a great day for us," Michel said.

"I am entirely satisfied with the quality of my team's game and I think they could have scored even more goals."

"We dreaded Italy and I made an effort to take away any complexes from my players so that they could impose their game and their own qualities. The great merit goes to the players."

Michel paid tribute to his predecessor Michel Hidalgo from whom he inherited the side after the 1984 European championship.

"The great merit of Michel Hidalgo is to have placed his confidence in young trainers like me," Michel said.

France was inspired by its master-assassin Michel Platini.

Platini disdained sentiment against the country of his ancestors and his fellows professionals in the Italian league and put France on course for victory with a 15th-minute goal.

Yannick Stopyra netted the second in the 57th minute, but most credit for front-line play goes to Yannick Rocheteau, perhaps the shrewdest, most unselfish and most creative forward of the World Cup.

France, served magnificently by midfielders who collectively are without peer in the world, made Italy look an ordinary team short of construction.

Italy created few clearcut chances though full-back Antonio Cassi had headed over the bar just before the interval and Bats made a good diving save from Conti in the 73rd minute.

But it was France that came closest to scoring again when Jean-Marc Ferreri, who had come on as substitute for Platini in the 85th minute, worked a delightful one-two with Giresse and Galli made a desperate, lunging save.

Enzo Bearzot, whose illustrious reign as Italian coach may

be nearing its end after the title holder's World Cup elimination today, showed dignity and humor in defeat.

"Honestly, France was stronger than us today in every department," he said.

"After 40 years of sport I am used to victories and defeats, and I have learned to accept both," he said.

"We are ready to applaud the winners because this French team is at the peak of its maturity."

He denied that his players had lacked heart during the Mexico campaign.

"I believe in all my players and staff of any sin. They tried their best and any mistakes were mine," he concluded, leaving the interview room to applause.

France put the game beyond Italy's reach with its second strike in the 57th minute.

Jean Tigana burst through the Italian defence before turning the ball inside to Rocheteau, who weathered the attention of his marker and again laid on the telling pass, this time to Stopyra who thrashed the ball home.

Platini, shedding the relatively muted mood he showed in the first round, proved once again his incomparable ability to rise to the big occasion.

He might have had a second goal in the 29th minute when he struck a free-kick from just outside the area which Galli did well to tip away from the right hand top corner of his net.

But Platini was no one-man band and was ably supported by Alain Giresse at his spritely and denying his 33 years, and the buccannery Fernandez, a heroic figure with socks rolled around his ankles.

Fernandez was outstanding in the first half, saving off his goal-line in the 19th minute, firing a 25-metre free-kick just outside Galli's right post in the 23rd and thumping a 30-metre snap shot against the cross bar in the 31st.

Italy had picked Giuseppe Baresi to shackle Platini but conceded the failure of this enterprise by replacing him after the interval with Antonio Di Gennaro.

Leftwinger Bruno Conti was their most effective attacker but Sandro Altobelli, who had scored four goals in the first round, was well contained by French central defender Maxime Bossis, France's most capped player in his 73rd international.

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Enzo Bearzot, whose illustrious reign as Italian coach may

IS IT THE END FOR BEARZOT?

Italian coach Enzo Bearzot tried out 72 players over four years in an effort to find the right combination of new names for the 1986 World Cup.

But in the end, the 1982 stars proved irreplaceable. "We have no excuses. We played against a better team," Bearzot said after France ousted Italy 2-0.

Bearzot said his players "had the heart I expected a defending World Cup team would have, but it wasn't a good day for us."

It was apparent, however, that the players he named for Mexico lacked either the experience or the ability of their predecessors, if not both.

In Spain, Bearzot built a team around a trio of high-class leaders: Captain-Goalkeeper Dino Zoff, the defensive mastermind; midfield general Marco Tardelli and striker Paolo Rossi, the top scorer in the tournament.

In Mexico, the team was united, willing and determined, but it lacked a true leader, a real personality to put extra fire in players on the field.

This deficiency was just too much for a team of good but not outstanding performers.

Only striker Alessandro Altobelli managed to make a name for himself with four goals in the first round, but it was just too little for a defending champion.

Italy played 1-1 draws with Bulgaria and Argentina and edged South Korea 3-2 to reach the knockout second round.

Aware of the team's inherent weakness before coming to Mexico, Bearzot made a desperate move, calling up Rossi and Tardelli even though both sat out most of the Italian league season with various injuries and poor form.

But the plan did not work. A month of training cured their injuries, but they did not have the conditioning for the tough battles of the World Cup. They were left off the field — Tardelli on the bench and Rossi not even on the list of substitutes.

Bearzot said he hoped Rossi and Tardelli could inject their spirit into the team from the sidelines, but the plan flopped.

Ironically, it was the first time in ages that the Italians proved to be a united bunch of players, with only minor conflicts and no real dissension.

Bearzot had worked hard toward this, even resorting to certain formal gestures such as asking the players to hold hands during the national anthems before games.

But the dearth of controversy was in some ways also a sign of the lack of a commanding field personality for the first of the 22 men.

Italian clubs are turning more and more to foreign stars to plug gaps in midfield and forward lines.

Whoever has the task of rebuilding the national team will have to face the reality that more talent needs to be developed at home.

The most likely solution for Italy is to try to rebuild a team around its under-21 selection, which has just qualified for the final of the European Championship.

The junior team's best player, 22, made his debut with Italy in the Cup and was the team's best player in its four Cup games.

WEST GERMANY 1 (Matthaeus 87th) MOROCCO 0 in Monterrey, second-round match. Crowd 19,800. Referee: Zoran Petrovic (Yugoslavia) 8.

WEST GERMANY: Schumacher 6 — Berthold 6, Forster 8, Jakobs 6, Briegel 7 — Matthaeus 8, Magath 6, Eder 7 — Alofs 7, Voeller 6 (Littbarski 5, half time), Rummenigge 6.

MOROCCO: Badou Zaki 10 — El Labi Khalifa 9, Noureddine Belyachia 8, Oudayd Lahcen 8, Abdelmajid Lemra 8 — Mustapha Hadidoudi 8, Abdelmajid Doudy 5, Mohamed Timouni 7, Aziz Bouderbala 7 — Krima 6, Khalif 6.

What a way to lose — to a free kick only three minutes to the end. Morocco, make no mistake, had an excellent chance to win this game because it would have had a lot left in extra time and goalkeeper Badou Zaki almost certainly would have beaten the Germans in a penalties shoot-out.

Zaki already had made two brilliant saves, and Morocco's interpassing game was wearing the Germans to a frazzle.

Midfielder Lethar Matthaeus scored with an 88th-minute free-kick to end Morocco's challenge.

Matthaeus, who had been the Germans' most enterprising player, drove a low shot round the Moroccan's hastily assembled wall five metres outside their penalty area.

The ball found the gap on the right of the wall and flew low into the bottom corner of the net.

At the time it appeared Morocco had done all that was required to frustrate and contain the physically more powerful West Germans and take the match into extra time.

There was obvious sympathy for the defiant Africans, the first team from that continent to reach the second round, who had battled heroically but without any final reward.

The Germans, who have never failed to reach at least the last eight in nine finals, must have had visions of a repeat of their embarrassing defeat by Algeria in 1982 as they fought to wrest control of the game.

For all their pressure, they were able to create only two clearcut chances, one in each half, and towards the end were reduced to kicking among themselves with Matthaeus and Karl-Heinz Rummenigge carrying on a running argument following one misunderstanding.

The Germans' best opportunities came in the final minute of the first half when Zaki made an astonishing reflex save from Rummenigge after a cross from Alofs had eluded the defence and found him unmarked at the far post.

Their second clear opening came in the 87th minute when Alofs cut in from the right and supplied Matthaeus with a chance to beat the impressive Moroccan goalkeeper from 15 metres.

His low drive was blocked as the powerful Zaki advanced and saved with his feet.

In reply, the Moroccans were generally content to rely on occasional breakaways, usually by Abdelaziz Bouderbala.

But these came to very little and their best shooting opportunities were from free-kicks around the penalty box which were wantonly fired over the bar on three occasions by the normally immaculate Mohamed Timouni.

Brazilian coach Jose Faria could draw some comfort from his team's achievement in taking one of the world's most traditionally successful World Cup nations within a few seconds of extra time on an afternoon when the Germans needed all their famed qualities of resilience and persistence to overcome the heat and the Africans' ambitions.

I'm off: Piechniczek

WARSAW — Poland manager Antoni Piechniczek has offered to resign after his team's 4-0 drubbing by Brazil in Guadalajara in the second round of the World Cup.

After five and a half years of work I would like to hand over to someone else," he said in an interview on Polish television.

"Everyone has the right to make his own personal decisions and I have made mine."

He said no-one had asked him to resign, despite the two consecutive heavy defeats by the 1982 World Cup bronze medalists, who went down 3-0 to England in their final first round match.

Grass too thick: Matthews

Sir Stanley Matthews, whose sparkling wing play made him a soccer legend, has welcomed the increased use of the flanks in the World Cup.

Matthews, 71, said it was significant that many of the goals had originated from the flanks.

"They use the flanks all over and goals will come from the wings," he said.

"They don't play specifically wingers, they keep just any players there," said Sir Stanley, who played in English World Cup teams in 1950 and 1954.

He said "serious soccer" at this World Cup started with the second round and that he was impressed with Brazil and Argentina. But he declined to predict the winner.

"What can you tell? It's the toss of a coin," he said.

Sir Stanley, who now lives in Burlington, Ontario, was interviewed as he toured the international press centre in Mexico City.

Although generally impressed with the standard of play, Sir Stanley said the condition of the pitches had made for slower, harder matches.

"The grass on many of the playing fields is too thick. It slows up the game. The forwards want the ball quicker so they can control it easier and get away from a defender," he said.

The long grass "gives a defender a second bite at the forward and he can tackle you. So you get a lot of fouls because the ground is so slow," he said.



© Stanley Matthews



Pele (front row, third from left), then 17, with Brazil's 1958 World Cup-winning team in Sweden. From left, standing: Djalma Santos, Nilton Santos, Bellini, Zito, Orlando, Gilmar. Front: Garrincha, Didi, Pele, Vava, Zagalo, Amerigo (physio).

Sixteen years on and Pele has returned to the stadium where the soccer world held its breath to watch and remember two moments of his incomparable genius.

Pele, now 45 and a television commentator during the 1986 World Cup finals, can describe those flashes of his unique skill as vividly now as those millions who watched in awe on television.

"I have relived so many great moments since returning to Mexico," he said. "I have always looked back on 1970 with nostalgia."

But few games involving the great Brazilian compared to that in the Jalisco Stadium when Brazil beat Uruguay 3-1 in the semi-finals on the way to a third world cup victory.

Early in the first half Pele collected a loose ball 10 metres inside his own half and, apparently without looking up,

Improvisation out: Pele

thumped the ball down the field.

It seemed aimless and uncharacteristic, and television viewers assumed Pele had suffered a mental aberration.

That was until the camera panned round to show Uruguayan goalkeeper Ladislau Mazurkiewicz, who had been standing off his line, frantically back-peddalling as Pele's high shot landed centimetres wide of the post.

"I had never scored from inside my own half before so I thought I would give it a try," Pele said.

Foiled once, Pele conjured up another piece of magic in the second half when he was sent clear with just Mazurkiewicz to beat.

Pele, the goalkeeper and the ball all converged from different angles on the edge of the box and, choosing to ignore the easy option of a shot, the maestro ran over the ball and left the Uruguayan helpless.

Pele then regained possession almost on the goal-line but was denied what would have been a memorable goal when a Uruguayan defender scrambled his final shot off the goal-line.

It was Pele's last World Cup. He had already gone back on his vow never to play in the finals again after having been literally booted out of the 1966 tournament by Bulgaria and Portugal in successive matches.

Sixteen years on and Pele believes football has changed for the worse. "Today coaches frown on individual players improvising on the pitch and even the great stars must conform to the pattern of the team," he said.

Sabotage, says Belanov

Hat-trick hero Igor Belanov lashed the defenders he reckons sabotaged the Soviet Union's World Cup campaign.

Belanov, one of nine Dynamo Kiev players in the side that started the dramatic second round match with Belgium in Leon, is only the second man in World Cup history to score a hat-trick and still end up on the losing team.

Ernest Willimowski scored four for Poland in their 6-5 defeat in extra-time by Brazil in 1958 in France.

But learning he had got into the record books for that kind of doubtful achievement only made 25-year-old Belanov angrier.

The defenders played like kids. It's

just unbelievable. They were beaten by every Belgian cross."

The Soviets, who had crushed Hungary 6-0 in their opening first round match, twice led but their dreams turned into a nightmare as Belgium came back to win 4-3 after extra-time.

And Belanov is not the only one to have sent crashing the red curtain of silence.

The backlash is widespread.

People were wondering if manager Valery Lobanovsky's time was up after less than five weeks in charge.

It was his 33rd day in the job.

Lobanovsky, having steered Dynamo Kiev to an outstanding European Cup Winners' Cup final triumph, got the national job on May 13.

Gilmar his idol

From ROBERT PHILIP

Goalkeepers are often regarded as a bit crazy.

If true, it is surprising there is not a resident soccer psychiatrist in Brazil where goalkeepers live under the threat of bombardment from the sport's most accurate marksmen.

In a land of budding Zicos, most Brazilian keepers admit they find themselves stuck in goal somewhat reluctantly because as boys they were too small or overweight to be forwards.

Carlos Roberto Gallo was neither small nor overweight but where his school friends' bedroom walls were festooned with pictures of Pele, Didi and Garrincha, his hero was Gilmar, the great Brazilian goalkeeper of the late 1950s and early 1960s.

Carlos, now 30, has proved himself a worthy successor to the great Gilmar in the 1986 World Cup finals, and he has no regrets he followed a career between the goalposts.

"I remember when I watched Gilmar as a youngster I was impressed by his cool, debonair attitude," recalled Carlos. "He always appeared to be in total control, no matter what was happening in the penalty area and I sup-

Socrates: he helps make soccer beautiful

From ROBERT PHILIP

As flamboyant as his

signature, Socrates Brasileiro Sampaio de Sousa

Vieira de Oliveira, "Soc-

rates" for short, has in-

jected some much-needed

humor into the World Cup

finals.

Faced with the mundane

chore of taking a penalty, the

Brazilian wizard provided the

impetus for the 4-0 victory over

Poland with a little piece of

impudence.

Socrates placed the ball on

the spot, took two steps back,

shuffled forward, stooped like

a vulture about to swoop on a

carcass, leaped and, as polish

goalkeeper Jozsef Mynarczyk

dived to the left, the Brazilian

casualty fished the ball into

the other corner of the net.

"I have no special tech-

nique," said Socrates, barely

suppressing a mischievous grin.

"I continually practise taking

penalties in training but I have

no set routine."

"The only thing I do is stare

straight into the goalkeeper's

eyes before and while

shooting."

The consummate showman,

Socrates strutted off the pitch

with 20 minutes to go to make

way for his friend Zico, blow-

ing kisses to the crowd like a

matador leaving the arena.

The penalty alone would

have earned Socrates both

ears and the tail in a bull-ring.

But the crowd also had loved

the rest of his 70-minute dis-

play which had been vintage

Socrates — back-healers, au-

dacious flicks and arrogant

body swerves.

"Football should be a beau-

tiful game," said Socrates.

"The love of the ball and the

attacking spirit is what

makes soccer such a thrilling

spectacle."

"It is the will to win, the abil-

ity to besiege the opposing goal

from all angles and our dislike

of defensive tactics which

make Brazil different. Any-

thing else means boredom and

ugliness."

At 32 Socrates, Brazil's 1982

World Cup captain, arrived in

Mexico without any guarantee

of a regular place and it was an

open secret he only played in

Brazil's opening group D qual-

ifying match against Spain be-

cause Zico was injured.

But he has been in sublime

form.

A newly converted non-

smoker, Socrates still enjoys

the more than occasional glass

of beer. But the doctor is not

cavalier toward his health.

"I attach a lot of importance

to physical fitness, otherwise it

would be impossible to last 90

minutes, especially under the

midday sun of Mexico," said

Socrates who is a qualified

pediatrician.

"Mental preparation is

equally important. I make my

mind a complete blank several

hours before every game and

by the time of the kick-off I am

in a state of absolute

concentration.

"Peace of mind is the key to

my performance and if I am

relaxed mentally I will stay

cool whatever happens, even

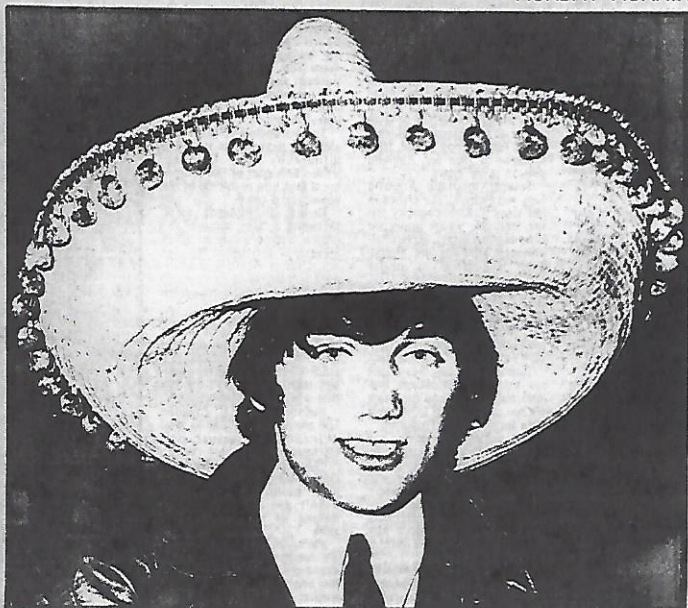
in something as important as

the World Cup."

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● Emilio Butragueno, "The Vulture"

SPAIN 5 (Butragueno 44th, 57th, 80th, & pen, 90th, Goikoetxea pen, 70th) DENMARK 1 (J. Olsen pen 33rd), second-round match in Queretaro. Crowd 38,500. Referee: Jan Keizer (Holland) 10.

Spain: Zubizarreta 8 - Gallego 8 - Tomas Renones 8, Camacho 9, Goikoetxea 8 - Michel Gonzalez 9, Francisco Lopez 84th Victor Manzanera 9, Caladere 7, Julio Alberto Moreno 8 Salinas 6 (Eloy Olaza 7, half time), Butragueno 10.

DENMARK: Høgh 6 - M. Olsen 7 - Nielsen 7, Busk 7 - Bertelsen 8 - Beergreen 7, J. Olsen 6 (Mouilly 70th), Lørry 7, Andersen 6 (Eriksen 60th) - Elkjaer 7, Laudrup 5.

The defence and counter-attack game worked for Belgium against the USSR. This time it worked for Spain against Denmark.

Full marks to both victors but for world soccer, it's as you were.

The USSR and Denmark both were big winners in the first round, playing offensive, open soccer, taking risks at the back for the sake of getting the ball forward, and into the net.

Denmark was hammered because it threw caution to the wind in defence after dropping behind at 1-2. It just wasn't the Danes' day. After scoring from a penalty, Jesper Olsen gave the ball to Emilio Butragueno

for Spain's first goal, and Elkjaer missed two chances to swing the game Denmark's way again.

Full marks to the Spaniards for the way they carried out their game plan. They pressured the Danes all over the park, making it hard for them to find the targets that make possible their intricate inter-passing game. And Butragueno swooped in the way that one would expect from a player nicknamed "The Vulture".

Camacho, Victor and Michel were Spain's other heroes, for their tireless defensive work.

Although Spain had beaten Denmark in the semi-finals of the European Championships in France two years ago, there was little support for the view that it could repeat the performance, as the previous win had

been on penalties and Denmark's form and confidence were running high.

Butragueno equalled the World Cup scoring record of four goals in a game. It was only the ninth time the feat has been achieved and the first time for 20 years, the last being Eusebio's four against North Korea in 1966.

Olsen, having scored the opener, let Butragueno in for his first with a dreadful back-pass which left the striker the easiest of tasks in slotting it past Lars Høgh.

The Danes went behind for the first time in the competition when Butragueno headed his second.

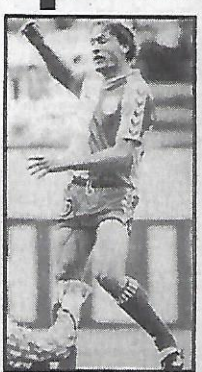
Hard man Andoni Goicoechea added a third from the penalty spot after Butragueno had been hauled down; Butra-

gueno broke away to complete his hat-trick and he rounded it off a minute from the end when he was again brought down and converted the penalty himself.

Denmark's feared striking duo of Elkjaer and Michael Laudrup was blunted by Spain's quick-tackling defence.

Goalkeeper Andoni Zubizarreta stopped everything the talented Danish forward could throw at him but Denmark still looked the better side at the beginning of the second half, with Elkjaer, who had scored four goals in the finals, wasting two good chances within a minute.

The match turned around completely from the 57th minute when Spain took the lead, Jose Antonio Camacho nodding on a corner for Butragueno to head home from close range.



● Preben Elkjaer

Cup first, then wedding . . .

From TIMOTHY COLLINGS

It was typical of Gary Lineker that only minutes after leading his team to victory over Paraguay he was modestly praising the rest of the team.

"It's a bit of a dream come true . . . but it is really down to a great performance by all the other lads in the team and not just my goals. All I had to do was tap them in," he said.

Lineker's deadly finishing on the pitch has always been accompanied by an unassuming off-field manner which has made him popular with the media, his team-mates and opponents.

Lineker was born in the English Midlands city of Leicester where his family still runs a market fruit and vegetable stall. As a boy he supported Leicester City, idolising its young goalkeeper Peter Shilton, and it was inevitable that he should join the First Division club.

He now shares a hotel room on tour with the veteran England keeper and says he has learnt much from the "Elder Statesman" of the squad.

But not even Shilton, the master craftsman, could teach Lineker his lightning reflexes, bristling pace and courageous finishing inside the penalty area.

Lineker left Leicester for Everton in 1985 for £1.77 mil.

He repaid Everton's investment handsomely, scoring 30 goals last season in the English first division, 40 in all competitive senior matches, and won two awards as player of the year.

He also hit a hat-trick for England in its qualifying victory over Turkey.

When he arrived in Mexico, his arm in plaster after injuring his wrist during England's warm-up win in Canada, he was expected to provide the finishing touch to ammunition supplied by A.C. Milan's Mark Hateley, and Tottenham's Chris Waddle and Glenn Hoddle.

But nothing went right and in England's first two matches against Portugal and Morocco, Lineker failed with the few half-chances that came his way. Then he cut loose.

"It's not something I worried about. If luck goes against me for a while I usually go out and get my hair cut. That does the trick."

Optimistically, he planned his summer wedding for July 5, a week after the World Cup final.

He hoped a winner's medal would make a satisfactory wedding present for his fiancée Michelle.



● Side benefit for a superstar - an unidentified woman shows her admiration for Soccer's Brazil as he



● Gary Lineker celebrates one of his two goals against Paraguay.

Hodde shows his class, Beardsley, Hodge too

From PAUL BRADSHAW

ENGLAND 3 (Lineker 32nd, 72nd, Beardsley 56th) PARAGUAY 0 in the Azteca Stadium, Mexico City, attendance 98,728. Referee: Jamal Al-Sharif (Syria) 8.

ENGLAND: Shilton 6 - Gary Stevens (Everton) 7, Butcher 8, Martin 6, Sansom 7 - T. Steven 7, Reid 7 (Gary Stevens (Tottenham) 58th), Hodge 9, Hodge 8 - Lineker 8, Beardsley 8 (Hateley 81st).

PARAGUAY: Fernandez 7 - Torales 6 (Guasch 64th), Schettina 6, Olegado 7, Zabalza 7 - Mendoza 7, Nunez 8, Ferreira 6, Romero 5, Canete 6 - Cabanas 7.

This was the day that Glen Hoddle came of age as a truly world class midfielder but while my colleagues showered Hoddle with praise two of the lesser lights of the England team stood out for me.

Peter Beardsley and Steve Hodge were nothing short of magnificent.

Going into these finals, England seemed to have prepared in traditional fashion. Big Mark Hateley was there to win the ball in the air (not that he's any slouch on the ground) and alongside him was the electrifying pace and finishing power of Gary Lineker.

My how things have changed.

The England which struggled through games against Portugal and Morocco frankly was stereotyped. The England which soundly defeated Poland and Paraguay had nerve, flair and no big man up front to try and win a series of monotonous and fully expected crosses.

So it's hats off to manager Bobby Robson and his coaching staff. They took the plunge, played Beardsley alongside Lineker and Hodge out wide in midfield and boy did it pay off.

Spanish midfielder Ramon Caldera, whose two goals against Algeria helped Spain reach the second round, became only the second player in World Cup history to fail a dope test.

Caldera, who was under treatment for Salmonella, gave the positive control after being used as a 53rd minute substitute in Spain's win over Northern Ireland in Guadalajara.

And a row immediately broke out after FIFA slapped a fine of 25,000 Swiss francs (\$20,245) on the Spanish Football Federation.

Jorge Guillen, the Spanish squad's doctor, said the treatment Caldera was receiving for Salmonella had been prescribed by one of the Guadalajara dope control officials, Rodriquez Noriega



● Roberto Cabanas

England has shown that it is capable of playing the ball on the ground and succeeding against world class opposition. Bobby Robson may come to be known as the man who effected a minor revolution in style as far as the England international team is concerned, irrespective of how far England goes in these finals.

Several thousand England fans were among the crowd in the giant 115,000-capacity Aztec Stadium, which appeared to be at most threequarters full although officially the attendance was given as nearly 100,000.

As the Mexican fans left the stadium, the English supporters stayed to take on the official music at the stadium, providing their own rendition of "You'll never walk alone". Hoddle, who long has shone for his club Tottenham Hotspur but rarely done the same for his country, was in remarkable form against Paraguay.

Lineker, still playing with a cast on his left wrist after badly spraining it a month ago, nearly made it 2-0 a minute later.

He met a cross from Beardsley and crashed a first-time shot that brought a rare reflex save from big Paraguayan keeper Roberto Fernandez.

Ironically it was Paraguay who should have been one-up on the half-hour mark.

A dreadful back pass from Terry Butcher to goalkeeper Peter Shilton was intercepted by Alfredo Mendoza who had

the goal at this mercy, albeit at a difficult angle, but chose to centre to teammate Adolfo Canete.

Shilton recovered in time to block Canete's effort.

But it was in the second half that England found its rhythm, helped by the fact that it was given more space as Paraguay came out to seek the equaliser.

In the 56th minute, Hoddle cornered from the right found big defender Butcher on the edge of the box.

Butcher fired a right foot shot which Fernandez could not hold and Beardsley was on hand to make it 2-0.

From then on, it was all over bar the shouting although the South Americans were unlucky not to be awarded a penalty in the 59th minute.

Striker Roberto Cabanas got the break of the ball 10 metres out and had a clear shot at goal when he appeared to be hauled down by English defender Alvin Martin.

Syrian referee Jamal Al-Sharif's decision to wave play on brought angry protests from the Paraguayans who pushed and shoved him for five minutes until a linesman and a FIFA official helped restore order.

The Paraguayans' inner tension was punished in the 72nd minute by Gary Lineker, whose fifth goal of the tournament took him to the top of the goalscorers' chart.

Hoddle, in majestic form, threaded a pass through the outside trap to substitute Gary Stevens of Tottenham Hotspur and Lineker gleefully converted his cross, sending England into a quarter-final showdown with Argentina.

Manager Robson, asked by an Argentine journalist for his views on facing Argentina for the first time since the Falklands War, replied: "I'm a football manager - don't ask me that sort of question."

Robson said that England had played exceptionally well defensively against the Paraguayans.

"There was quite a lot of intimidation going on but we kept pushing forward and didn't get involved. That helped us enormously," he said.

Paraguay coach Cayetano Re commented: "I believe our experience in the World Cup has been good considering our means. It was our objective to get to the second round and we got there."

England played an excellent game. The Paraguayan team was not accustomed to playing against such close marking. There was not any shame to lose against England.

Maldini or Zoff?

Enzo Bearzot's possible successor as Italian coach is team trainer Cesare Maldini, the current No. 2 man, or former goalkeeper Dino Zoff, another trainer and captain of the 1982 World Cup champions.

Ferguson out?

ALEX FERGUSON, who resigned last weekend as Scotland's caretaker manager may relinquish the Aberdeen manager's job following the return to Pittodrie of his former assistant Archie Knox, in an unspecified capacity. Knox's position as Dundee manager has gone to his coach, Jocky Scott. The

moves, fuelled speculation that Ferguson will become Aberdeen's chief executive, or take a job outside the Scottish game.

Euro links

Aziz Boudersalla, described by manager Jose Faria as Morocco's Maradona, has been contacted by Italian clubs Sampdoria and A.C. Milan. Already with FC Sion in Switzerland, the attacking midfielder hinted he was interested in a move before arriving in Mexico.

Other players linked with European clubs are Mohamed Timouni (Milan), goalkeeper Badou Zaki (Atletico Madrid) and striker Merry Krimum (Saint Etienne, France).

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Charlie Butragueno and Alan Elkjaer

SM-Hellas 5 Green Gully 0

Score: Egan 36th, penalty 72nd, penalty 80th, Murphy 40th, Davidson 88th.
Venue: Middle Park.
Crowd: about 1,200
Cautions: Miranda, Egan (SMH).
Referee: Stuart Mellings 7.

"Who needs Mick Flanagan when you've got Charlie Butragueno and Alan Elkjaer up front?"

That rhetorical question was posed by a Hellas fan after this annihilation of Green Gully.

His friend responded: "Who's Flanagan anyway?"

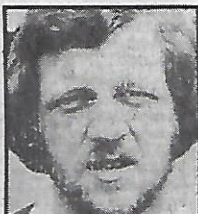
Flanagan, for you anglophobes out there, is renowned for his scoring efforts in English football, principally with Charlton. Hellas coach John Margaritis is trying to decide whether to sign among others, Flanagan, Joe Sweeney of Brunswick Juventus or Russell Athers of Springvale City.

Margaritis could have changed his mind after watching Alan "Eljaer" Davidson turn on a second-half display that is as good as any I've seen from a front runner this year.

The ease with which Davidson lost his marker, Steve McLelland, must be worrying to a Green Gully camp whose confidence is at a low ebb, to put it nicely.

Not that the confidence of the Hellas players in each other was helped by the politicking of the past week-and-a-half involving a yet-to-be identified player who lunched with chairman Chris Christopher and said, supposedly, that the players had lost confidence in Margaritis.

Everyone at Hellas is trying to play down an absolutely scandalous series of incidents



• Mick Flanagan

which involved Christopher telling team manager Pierre Pallas to tell Margaritis that he was sacked, a decision not ratified by the full committee, and a player meeting at which "the invisible man" decided to remain invisible.

Charlie "Butragueno" Egan is rumored to be feigning injury at training this week so that he can slip into the changing rooms and check his teammates' boots in order to find the pair with the shoe phone built-in.

Dougie Brown might make a cameo appearance at training along with that infamous dog of his, which could be used for its tracking ability. Perhaps some former Hellas coaches could throw light on the affair by revealing the site of the secret trap door in the dressing rooms that has saved them from time to time from a haranguing from irate Hellas fans.

There is, however, a serious side to this matter, one as yet untouched by Press hands.

Christopher refuses to reveal the identity of "the invisible man", even to his fellow committeemen. I find that extraordinary, it certainly is counter-productive, given that at least a modicum of

Man of the match:

ALAN DAVIDSON
(SM-Hellas)

trust between committeemen is required for the smooth running of club affairs.

Oh yes, the match.

George Campbell started off playing just behind Gully's front pair of Peter Reynolds and Peter Kadlicek. Campbell was more effective out wide, especially early in the second half, and frequently was involved in Gully's most threatening moves.

While McLelland was marking Davidson, Steve Douglas had the task of keeping Egan in check, with Stuart Cannell sweeping up.

Scott Fraser first prodded Peter Laumets into action with a fine, long drive in the 28th minute. Laumets knocked the ball over.

Three minutes later, Gully should have been awarded a penalty. Steve Blair's challenge on Reynolds was clumsy at best yet referee Stuart Mellings waved play on.

In the 34th minute, Richard Miranda played a superb cross over a Gully defence coming out far too slowly. Carl Halford beat Lou Denys to the ball and knocked it over the head of the Gully goalie but Douglas recovered in style to effect a spectacular overhead clearance right on the line.

Two minutes later, Hellas hit the front.

Halford took a free kick on the left, awkward when Angie Postecoglou's overlapping



Craig MacKenzie

run came to an abrupt, trip-inspired end. Miranda headed on and there was Egan swooping like a vulture at the far post to head in.

Davidson rounded Denys in the 40th minute but didn't strike the ball firmly enough, allowing David Hogben to clear off the line. The resultant corner saw the ball fall to Miranda whose misdirected shot set up Kenny Murphy and his first-time effort from five metres made it 2-0.

Two minutes later Davidson shot just wide of the far post and Gully should have pulled back a goal right on half time.

Costa Theodosopoulos skillfully chipped the ball over Postecoglou to Scott Fraser charging down the right wing.

Fraser took the ball to the backline but appeared to push it too far forward. Blair thought so too. He tried to shield the ball and let it go but Fraser slid in and cut it back to Kadlicek at the near post. Kadlicek laid the ball off to Campbell whose drive was blocked. The same fate befell Reynolds from the rebound.

In the 53rd minute, Campbell robbed Halford and turned Gary McDowell inside-out down the left. Campbell's cross was met by Kadlicek whose shot was well blocked by Laumets. The Hellas goalie, still on the ground, reached out and pushed the ball out to Theodosopoulos. His backheeler set up

Reynolds whose shot was blocked.

Two minutes later, Fraser, Campbell and Hogben combined well. Hogben sent over a tremendous far post cross. Theodosopoulos didn't get enough power into his header and McDowell blocked only to give the ball away to Theodosopoulos whose overhead try was no trouble for Laumets to hold.

In the 72nd minute, Bobby Russell suddenly forgot about the state of his right shin after a Cannell challenge and his chip sent Egan through only to be tripped by Gully substitute Alaadin Koca. Egan converted from the penalty spot.

A tremendous Egan turn inside the Gully area in the 80th minute was greeted with the lunging boot of Douglas. Down went Egan, referee Mellings pointed to the penalty spot and "Butragueno" got his hat-trick.

"Eljaer" got into the act in the 88th minute. He looked suspiciously offside and I looked suspiciously at the linesman but no, he wasn't Russian and he hadn't been at Wembley in 1966. Denys was helpless as the shot was placed sweetly just inside the near post.

It was 5-0 and by now there wasn't a Hellas fan even remotely interested in the identity of "the invisible man".



BRISBANE CITY, on the march, from left, stand Robert Harrison, Gary Bromfield, Alfie Catalano, Luciano Fabrizio, Frank Mengotti, Steve Perry, and Picture: LES

Where was

George Cross 1 Brish City 2

Scorers: Fabrizio 48th, Cooper 53rd (BC) Mitten 73rd (GC)
Venue: Chaplin Reserve
Crowd: 900

Cautions: Cooper (BC), White (GC), Mengotti (BC), Bromfield (BC), Taylor (GC)
Referee: Dennis Voutsinas

Brisbane City would no doubt have settled for a draw, but in the end it deservedly gained both points, partly due to its disciplined approach and partly due to an inept performance by the home team.

It was obvious from the start that George Cross would be tight at the back and rely on quick counter-attacks through Alan Reis and Kieran Cooper to try to sneak a goal. The plan worked to perfection and in a magic five minutes early in the second half, the visitors completely wrongfooted the George Cross defence, grabbing what proved to be a winning two-goal lead.

The first in the 48th minute was initiated by man-of-the-match Steve Perry.

Man of the match:

STEVE PERRY
(Brisbane City)

Perry, who completely demoralised the George Cross strikers with his excellent positioning and timely interceptions, gained possession once again and knocked the ball to young Alfie Catalano who played the ball forward to Alan Reis. He controlled it well, although under pressure from two defenders, and squared it to Kieran Cooper who touched it on first time to Luciano Fabrizio, making a supporting run on the right. Fabrizio had time to pick his spot and easily beat Sean Keogh from a slight angle.

The second Brisbane goal was somewhat similar. This time it was Gary Bromfield playing the ball out of defence to Phil White whose cross from the left found Cooper unattended near the penalty spot and he made no mistake.

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El Ali - what a player

Marconi 2 Canberra 0

Crowd: 1,229
Ground: Marconi Stadium
Cautions: Janin, Brown, El Ali (M), Dunn (C).
Goals: Brown 47th, El Ali 69th

Oswaldo Eli Ali, Marconi's newest acquisition from Argentina, is fast becoming the darling of Marconi's supporters. The terraces at Bossley Park may not be as full as once upon a time when the legendary Roberto Vieri ran riot but there hasn't been such excitement for years.

It is El Ali now who tends to get people on their feet with his dazzling speed, sudden turns and silky skills which at times embarrassed Canberra's players.

To add to his fine performance, Ali was on the spot to

Man of the match:
OSVALDO EL ALI
(Marconi)

aid Rod Brown in scoring Marconi's first goal.

Twenty minutes later he added a touch for Marconi's number two.

The home side struggled during the first period and Canberra not only contained Marconi but also looked more likely to score.

Tom Sermanni created enough space for himself on the edge of the area in the 18th minute before making an awful mess with his shot. After latching onto a long through ball by Bryant and deceiving a Marconi defender, Sermanni should

have done better, being so close to goal and having enough time to settle on the ball.

Only a few minutes later Peruvian star Augusto Palacios was involved in a blistering move with three Canberra players before pushing a through ball for Jimmy Cant to face Bruce James who dived to block Can's poor drive.

Marconi's Adrian Janin could not find his rhythm, guest star Rene Colusso could not strike up an understanding with the rest, Peter Tredinnick's passes left a lot to be desired and Craig Mason was unusually quiet.

Coach Les Scheinful replaced Janin and Colusso with Ian Gray and Rod Brown at half time and Marconi looked a different team.

Brown looked mean and hungry for goals and El Ali relished the opportunity to come



forward and be involved. Passes from Tredinnick and Mason started to find their targets and suddenly Canberra was in all sorts of strife.

Two minutes into the second half, Brown latched onto a looping pass from Gray and in a single move trapped and pushed the ball past Steve Bryant before exchanging passes with El Ali to slam the ball in side the near post for the opening goal of the game.

Another fine pass by Gray found David Lowe with a lot of

Flounders, Mullen, Durakovic out

Allan Crisp

AC-Juventus 0 BU-Juventus 0

Venue: Olympic Sports Field
Crowd: 2393
Referee: Jim Rossis 8.

Adelaide City Juventus and its cousin Brunswick Juventus shared the spoils as they chased after Southern Division leader Footscray JUST in this scoreless affair.

And in their haste to overhaul the Blues, both had key players red-carded by referee Jim Rossis.

Adelaide Juventus lost Neville Flounders, who was sent off for a foul on Brunswick Juventus midfielder Joe Palatides, while Brunswick lost full-back Mehmet Durakovic after a second caution.

Unlike Durakovic, Flounders had not been previously booked and his expulsion for a solid, but not vicious tackle was harsh.

Apart from the two send-offs, referee Jim Rossis also booked Rob Cullen of Brunswick and Joe Mullen of City. Flounders must now serve a two-game suspension while Mullen will miss Sunday's match against Footscray JUST after accumulating 12 penalty points.

But it would be a pity if this match is remembered principally because of the flashing red and yellow cards when young Steve Nisicoli performed so well in the home goal.

As the 17-year-old foiled the

best efforts of Brunswick with his agility and fine judgement, it was difficult to realise that this was only his fifth OASL appearance.

By contrast Yakka Banovic had a holiday in the Brunswick goal as he returned to his state of origin.

Nisicoli is pinch-hitting for the injured Steve McNally and doing it in fine style under the guidance of the good-natured Irishman.

Brunswick coach Len McKendry said he was delighted with his team's performance and the point from the away draw.

There can be little argument with McKendry's post match comment: "We controlled the game from start to finish. It's as good a performance as you can get and to take a point here was a fine effort."

City coach Zoran Matić said his side was denied time to play by the tough Brunswick outfit in a "dreadful match".

Man of the match:

STEVE NISICOLI
(Ac-Juventus)

"They were a physical team and they wanted physical contests all over the park and that's the sort of game it was," he said.

Certainly it was a stop-start contest, punctuated by the frequent frees awarded. When Flounders left the field Matić lost 90th minute in substituting Paul Shillabeer for Alex Tobin. The move was obviously designed to allow Shillabeer to slot in as Bugsy Nyskobus's central defensive partner — the spot he will doubtless occupy against Footscray JUST on Sunday.

Meanwhile, Mullen's suspension, tragic as it may be, will afford an opportunity for Paul Wilde to win a run-on spot in the Adelaide Juventus side.

• Cautious, latsides, bin, as if



ig: Glenn Archer, Alan Reis, Kieran Cooper, George Caird. Front: Billy Wilkinson (coach), White, Steve Guglielmina, Roberto Lettieri. IORROCK.

Markovski?



Ken Kontra

This flurry of action was preceded by a rather uneventful first half containing only three incidents worth mentioning. In the 24th minute Fabrizio's free kick created panic in the large cross penalty area, but it was by Cooper and Catalano were blocked and the ball was scrambled clear. Four minutes later Phil Mitten's cross from the left was added just over by Cooper from ten metres.

In the 34th minute, Carl Gilder, to worked his heart out without much support, set up John Campelj with a good header, but Campelj of straight at Robert Harrison in about 10 metres.

In the 60th minute coach John Iordrock took off Steve Richardson and Don MacLaren and put on takers Noel Mitten and John Mar-

kovski. At the same time, Billy Wilkinson replaced youngsters Frank Guglielmino and Alfie Catalano with Glenn Archer and Roberto Lettieri.

The change by Gardiner almost paid dividends in the 68th minute when Gilder volleyed Mitten's cross fractionally over the bar.

Five minutes later Mitten pulled a goal back with a clever back-header from Jeff Faulkner's free kick.

Although under considerable pressure, Brisbane City defended well and managed to hang on to its lead to take the points.

Only in the last 30 minutes, following the substitutions, did George Cross find the right balance. Up to that stage, it was undermanned in attack and had four defenders marking two Brisbane City strikers — hardly a recipe for attacking soccer. And why did Markovski start on the bench?

yer!

Vesic

pace on the right flank. As Bryant came in for a tackle, Vesic coolly planted his cross at the feet of Brown who missed the ball, but the ever-alert Elili was on hand to make it 2-0.

A series of chances and openings fell Marconi's way, with Canberra fading fast but some serious offside decisions by the linesman, coupled with over-enthusiastic finishing by Marconi players, helped the visiting side. Tony Franken put in yet another fine display of goalkeeping to frustrate Marconi's attacks.



a tangle, from left: Joe Parnet-Durakovic and Alex To'o Juventus clash. Picture: FRANK HOBBS.

Fleming furious with refereeing

Wollongong 1 SC-Hakoah 1
Score: Kotamidis 37th,
Lee 82nd.
Venue: Wollongong Showgrounds
Crowd: 1,831.
Sent off: Cokely 50th (W).
Referee: Gary Power 4.
Wollongong coach John Fleming blasted referee Gary Power after two controversial incidents during his team's battling 1-1 draw with Sydney City Hakoah.

"There is a rule for them and a rule for us after what I have seen out there today," Fleming said after an outburst in the home team's dressing room.

Wollongong led 1-0 when midfielder Bryan Cokely was sent off five minutes after half-time following an incident involving Hakoah striker John Kosmina.

Cokely allegedly struck Kosmina and the Hakoah striker was shown the yellow card for retaliation after Power had held up the red card to Cokely.

Wollongong held its one-goal lead until eight minutes from the end when Hakoah finally cracked the defence to get an unusual goal.

After a Hakoah attack had broken up, Grant Lee sent a shot from 30 metres and it went through a wall of players into the net.

Wollongong defenders ap-

Man of the match:
ROBERT GIRALDI
(Wollongong)

pealed for off-side and there seemed at least two players in off-side positions when the ball was kicked.

Power consulted his linesmen and upset the crowd and the Wollongong players by allowing the goal to stand.

The referee said after the game there were three players in off-side positions but

they were not interfering with play.

"I felt the goalkeeper was able to get a clear view of what was happening," Power said. Fleming said he was disgusted with Power's performance.

"Kosmina should have been sent off when Cokely went," Fleming said.

"If the referee admitted three players were off-side he should not have allowed the goal."

"It was a crowded area in the middle of the ground and they must have had some influence on the play," he added.

The defence, well led by Ray Vlietstra, always looked to have the measure of Sydney City dangermen Kosmina and Frank Farina and the midfield worked tirelessly.

Wollongong scored after 37 minutes when Hakoah defender Gerry Gomez fouled Pat Brodnik just outside the penalty area and midfielder Peter Kotamidis sent a curling, swerving shot out of the reach of goalkeeper Alex McPherson.

Three minutes before half-time, Kotamidis powered in another free kick from 30 metres and McPherson did well to save.

Lamond the magician



Peter Windsor

Inter Monaro 0 Syd Croatia 4
Score: Arnold 38th & pen. 83rd, Dragicevic 76th, Ozdakov 80th.
Venue: Bruce Stadium.
Referee: Jim Fokiano 8.
Cautions: Wotherspoon (Monaro).
Crowd: 1,500.

Australia's costliest player, Manis Lamond, didn't get his name on the scorecard, but still proved Sydney Croatia's match-winner in this stunning, 4-0 victory over Monaro at Canberra's Bruce Stadium.

It was Lamond, given a roaming commission in attack, who laid Croatia's first two goals.

Whenever he moved onto the flanks, Lamond was the proverbial will-o-the-wisp — and it was from the flanks that Lamond did the damage.

Monaro had his chances — particularly in the second half — but squandered them.

Attilio Carbone found himself in space just 12 metres out but his hurried, stabbed shot was struck just wide of the upright.

Right on the half hour, Croatia midfielder Zarko Ozdakov sent Lamond away for a dashing, long run but just as he was lining up to shoot, Lamond was brilliantly robbed and denied by sweeper Ricki Budini.

However, in the 35th and 36th minutes came two cleverly-worked Croatian raids that should have produced goals.

Left unmarked, Lamond moved to the flank, drew goalkeeper Nick Antonopoulos and then squared the ball back to fellow front-runner Zelko Jurin.

Again Budini charged down the shot.

It was striker Graham Arnold's turn a minute later — but this time Antonopoulos brilliantly saved the point-blank ground shot.

Booyed by these attempts, Croatia looked at last a smooth, polished attacking formation.

Lamond again did the play-making. He burst down the right flank and when he sent in a curling cross, it was Graham Arnold who got his head to it from only a metre out to find the net.

That was the half-time score — and in fact Monaro looked to be weathering the second half pressure as the second half progressed.

And once again they had their chance. When midfielder Carbone got in a high cross, it was hardworking front-run-

ners Steve Winn who rose above the pack to send his header just inches over the crossbar.

That was in the 56th minute. In the 63rd minute Carbone shot wide from close range and in the 70th minute Croatia's goalkeeper Steve Watson played his part to pull off a brilliant, full-length fingertip save to deny Monaro's Ian Wotherspoon.

Finally, 31 minutes into the half, with Monaro somewhat unlucky not to be level, came that second piece of Lamond magic that really broke Monaro's back.

Once again the 20-year-old ex-Canberra player broke down the right flank, cut inside his defender and sent in a neat cross.

On hand to nod it home was none other than former Monaro player, Emil Dragicevic — a 65th minute replacement for Zelko Jurin.

That really began Croatia's devastating rout and Monaro's worst home defeat of the season.

Just 10 minutes from the final whistle — in the 88th minute — Ozdakov was upended just outside the penalty area. He took the free-kick himself and bent it superbly around the defensive wall and low into the left hand corner of the net to make it 3-0.

And with just seven minutes

Man of the match:
MANIS LAMOND
(Syd Croatia)

remaining, Graham Arnold got his second — and Croatia's fourth — from the penalty spot after Arnold had been brought down inside the area by Ricki Budini.

That was a tragedy for Budini, for once again he had played superbly.

In that final seven minutes, Monaro created but missed legitimate goalscoring chances.

A mix-up from a cross saw Wotherspoon, Winn and Perinovic bunched to miss a great chance — and then later replacement Angelo Ambrosino burst clear into the penalty area.

Ambrosino was centrally placed but he chose to slot the ball to Angelo Tilius who lofted it over the crossbar.

Successful home games against APIA and Marconi are now absolutely vital if Monaro is to claw its way out of the bottom.

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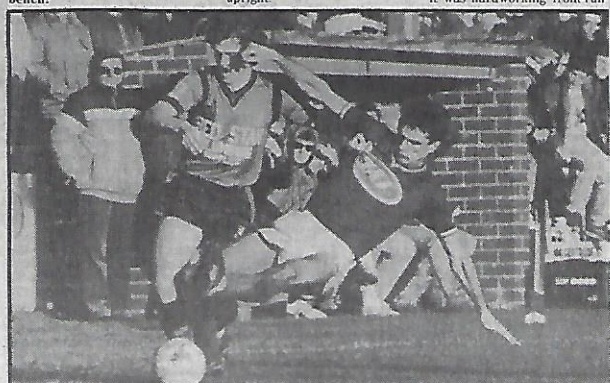
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• Vlatko Belic (right) of Footscray JUST tackles Makedonia's Ian Roodhouse. Picture: CARMELO BAZZANO.

Latif after Kosmina



Laurie Schwab

Footscray JUST 1 Makedonia 0
Score: Latif 8th.
Venue: Connor Reserve.
Referee: Evan Venios 8.
Cautions: Hoyts (Mak).
Ossie Latif remained on the trail of NSL top scorer John Kosmina by grabbing the winning goal against Makedonia.

Latif — signed early this year from Sunshine George Cross — boosted his tally to seven.

Kosmina, the Socceroo captain of Sydney Hakoah, has 10. Latif could have finished the match with an impressive haul, as his midfielder presented him with chances galore.

Just's victory was marked by a knee injury to star midfielder Vlado Bozinovski who had to be replaced by Suleiman Curovic after 20 minutes.

"We are not the best team in Australia but the boys do what I tell them and work very hard, as well as having more skill than a lot of other teams," said

Just coach Dragoslav Sekularac, when asked the reasons for Just's surge from last place in 1985 to the top of the ladder.

Makedonia coach Bill Murray blamed missed chances for the defeat, especially a miss by Sean Lane from point blank range in the last minute.

"We lost because we didn't make the most of our chances. We had enough of them, clear chances," he said.

Just played on quick breaks through the midfield, with ammunition for Latif supplied by Vlado Stotic and Vlatko Belic in particular.

Latif scored the winner in the eighth minute when he latched on to a high ball that had bounced off the head of Makedonia defender Ian Dobson and goaled with a low shot off the post.

After a number of misses by Latif, Gary Cole came close for Makedonia with a header. Murray added speed to Makedonia's attack by bringing on winger Mile Nacovski in the 60th minute, and Martin Woodall, in his first full match in Australia, hit the bar.

Man of the match:
OSSIE LATIF
(Footscray JUST)

Stotic brought a brilliant save from Makedonia goalkeeper Phil Traianedes before Lane missed his 'sitter' in the last minute.

The result ended JUST's long run of outs in league games against Makedonia. Last year, Makedonia won their encounters 2-0 and 2-1, with former JUST captain Zoran Iloski starring for Makedonia in both games.

Iloski now plays left back for Makedonia and although he has done well there this season, one feels his creative flair would be helpful in midfield.

The Makedonia defence seemed unsure of how to deal with Latif and Zdravko Lujic who both dropped back and gave themselves acres of ground in which to operate.

Warren Spink was Makedonia's most dangerous forward but he, like Lane, missed a golden opportunity when he blasted over from close range in the 22nd minute.

St George 4 Newc-Rosebud 2

Scorers: Fletcher 29th & 46th, Riccio 78th, Cotton 87th (St G); Ingham 2nd, Jones 47th (NR).
Venue: St George Stadium.
Referee: Graham Warner B.
Cautions: J. O'Shea (St G).

Early despair turned to joy for St George Budapest, trying to find its feet again after recent disasters against Monaro and Hakoah, when it took on a keen and competitive Newcastle.

The Northerners served up an early shock when Sean Ingham headed past Mike Gibson to open the scoring in the second minute and although the Saints drew level when Fletcher's header converted an Ollershaw corner in the 29th minute, they nonetheless were the better of the two teams.

Joy at last for Saints



Peter Scott

Budapest's defence seemed incapable of building up an attack coming from the rear, pumping balls blindly out of the area, giving the strikers very few chances for constructive work.

They Buds failed to build on their early impetus but looked more dangerous in attack, taking advantage of nippy mid-

fielders and strikers, but good work going to waste through lack of mature thinking.

The picture changed drastically after the break, the Saints suddenly looking much the more thoughtful and skilful in their approach work.

Just a minute after the restart, Cotton threw a beautiful dummy from an Ollershaw cross, allowing Fletcher to score again quite easily from about 10 metres out.

Man of the match:
STEWART PORTER
(St George)

Within sixty seconds the scores were level again following a penalty awarded against Mike O'Shea for handball, but not without some measure of luck on the visitors' part.

Jones' kick from the spot was saved by the quick diving Gibson, but the Newcastle player was following through and buried the rebound in the net.

As if this wasn't enough, the

Saints' defensive mainstay David Ratcliffe muffed a penalty given for handball by Milosevic in the 60th minute, but even this failed to temper the Hungarian club's rekindled fire and ambition.

With 11 minutes to go, Pedro Riccio put his side's nose in front again with a neatly placed header past Gosling. Ironically, he scored just as Saints reserve John McKie waited on the sideline to replace him.

Cotton's goal, converting a neat Ollershaw pass three minutes from the end, was just the icing on the happy Saints' cake.

Newcastle worked hard for no reward in this match, while the Saints' sound second half performance provided some evidence of confidence for Sunday's vital home clash against high flying Croatia.

McSkimming's miss costly



Ricky Rosso

**Brisbane Lions 0
Heidelberg 2**

Venue: Richards Stadium.
Crowd: 1174.
Scorers: Wilson 28th, Lucchesei 39th.
Cautions: BL: Morton, Liddell. H: McKie.

Any hope Brisbane Lions had of winning this match went sailing out of the ground with Bob McSkimming's tragic misplaced shot in the 15th minute.

Although it is unfair to lump the blame on the likeable Scot, for many of his team-mates had a lot to answer for after the match, the missed goal turned the game.

From the terraces, it looked a simple chance. Danny Wright had wiggled his way down the left and to the near post to put a low pass across the face of goal. With everyone at the near post, McSkimming had the goal at his mercy, but he leaned back as he stepped in to side-foot home and the shot ballooned over the top.

It should have been the goal Lions deserved for their early pressure and dominance. But the miss brought frustration and lack of concentration into the team.

Fourteen minutes later, Lions were to pay. With the entire team except sweeper Frank Liddell and goalkeeper Rob Farrow in the Heidelberg half, former Lions player Alan Hunter knocked a long ball out of defence to find Englishman Paul Wilson breaking fast.

Wilson, signed only a month ago by coach Brian Garvey, had too much speed and a start on Liddell and raced all the way to the penalty box before squeezing his shot past Farrow

Man of the match:
PAUL WILSON
(Heidelberg)

and into the goal off the far upright.

Lions were shattered and from then never looked like recovering.

The Brisbane team had started with a 4-4-2 combination with the intent of gaining control of midfield. Drawing Hunter out of the middle then putting wide men in behind. On paper the idea was good. In practice, it never worked.

With several of the Lions midfield workers having off-days apart from those opening minutes, the home team never took control.

After the first goal, Heidelberg continued to threaten, pushing forward with continual forays of short passing and clever running. Lions seemed to be chasing all day as the likes of Wilson, Peter Tsolakis, Nick Deligiannis and Claude Lucchesei thought and acted faster.

Lucchesei was to add his team's second in the 39th minute with a simple shot from 20 metres. It appeared from the sidelines one that Farrow might have saved, but the bounce of the ball may have fooled the Lions keeper.

Although Lions coach Col Bennett brought on his new Irish signing David Richardson at the break, the home team made little headway. Richardson showed some good flashes without really threatening while Wright and Jim Morton plugged away with similar results.

Wright had one good attempt, a shot on the turn, well saved by Jeff Oliver while late in the game a break by John Kaneosulis was wasted when he shot wide.

Manou, Konstandopoulos destroy Croatia

Man of the match:
CHRIS MANOU
(WA-Heilas)

**M. Croatia 1
WA-Heilas 2**

Scorers: Paul Lewis 28th (MC), Konstandopoulos 6th, 59th.

Venue: Olympic Park No. 1.
Crowd: about 1000.

Cautions: Manou (WA-Heilas).

Referee: Robert Marshall 7.

Socceroo Charlie Yankos was missing from the West Adelaide Heilas line up but his absence did nothing to help a disappointing Croatia.

Most of Croatia's players were found wanting in the most basic aspects of the game with Captain Steve Gojevic, full back Drago Deankovic and forward Robert Markovac consis-

tently being caught in possession or giving the ball away needlessly.

Heilas, opening goal in the 6th minute typified many of Croatia's shortcomings when Deankovic misplaced his back pass, allowing Heilas midfielder Michael Genikas to race clear to the byline on the left side where he crossed hard and low for striker George Konstandopoulos to place the ball home high into the Croatia goal.

Chris Manou, playing just in front of the Heilas back four, dictated play at will either by joining his defenders to initiate a slow build-up or by hitting long diagonal passes for his wide midfielders.

Perhaps Croatia erred by leaving Luka Bonacic on the bench until the final 20 minutes because when he did come onto the field, as a substitute for Gojevic, he at least was willing to demand the ball from his team mates.

Croatia's only real scoring attempt in the first half came from a superbly-taken free



Mike Lynn

kick that Josip Biskic hammered towards the Heilas goal in the 24th minute but Heilas goalkeeper Martyn Crook was able to touch the ball over the crossbar.

Five minutes later a piece of Biskic magic saw him swivel as he received the ball, on the edge of Heilas penalty area from a throw in, but in beating two players, his subsequent cross was disappointing as Crook collected the ball in front of Croatia striker Paul Lewis.

Heilas should have extended its lead in the 43rd minute. Manou played yet another good forward pass to Konstandopoulos who laid the ball first time to midfielder Lou Hristodoulou making a surging run down the right wing. Hristo-

doulou raced to the byline and crossed hard and low to Gary Ward standing unmarked in the 6-yard area. The former Croatia striker had a great opportunity to score against his old team but after controlling the ball he shot straight at Crook and the ball went for a corner.

Croatia's only goal was scored in the 48th minute from a brilliant piece of finishing by striker Paul Lewis. Midfielder Jim Campbell won possession midway in the Heilas half and played a forward pass to Lewis running into the left of the Heilas penalty area. Lewis controlled the ball and cut inside along the edge of the penalty area, then rifled a superb right-foot shot that gave Crook no chance.

It should be highlighted that Lewis was a constant worry to the Heilas defence because of his pace and if Croatia ever does retrieve its pre-season form, I think he could get a bagful of goals for his new club.

In the 53rd minute Josip Biskic should have put Croatia ahead. Lewis stole the ball from Heilas sweeper Graham Honeymen and knocked a fine pass through the Heilas defence to Biskic who, with only the keeper to beat, hit the ball wide of Crook's left hand post.

The winning goal for Heilas was scored in the 59th minute.

A Heilas corner on the left was played deep beyond the far post to unmarked Michael Genikas who had time to control the ball on the byline and chip a perfect cross onto the head of Konstandopoulos, enabling him to score his second goal of the match.

Great fightback by APIA

**Canterbury 2
APIA 2**

At: Arlington Oval
Crowd: 1172
Scorers: Zrilic 5th, 36th; Lorens 70th; Bozanic 89th.
Cautions: Bundalo, Baran (A).

Referee: Ken Small 7.

APIA staged a grand, second-half rally to snatch a point after being two goals down and in desperate need of ideas of how to make up the deficit and keep the determined Canterbury outfit contained.

The match was typical of a lower table encounter where the points were the prime consideration and consequently fitness and articulate play were secondary to the desired result.

On the run of play, both sides had good grounds to rue the loss of a win bonus. Canterbury only has itself to blame for allowing a two-goal lead to slip from its grasp and APIA con-



Mike Mikolajczyk

tributed to its own misery by missing a penalty early in the first half.

After the narrow loss to Croatia and desperate for points, the home team had to reorganise because of the loss of key players. Thammidis, still injured, and Zaimi and Haniotis, both serving suspensions.

Nevertheless, the Berries started full of confidence and were a goal up after only five minutes. APIA's central defenders clashed trying to clear a simple ball and Peter Zrilic gratefully accepted the gift and coolly slotted the ball past Tony Pezzano.

So APIA continued its alarming habit of giving away a soft

goal in every match.

A similar four-up in Canterbury's defence should have been punished by a goal. Centre-back Arthur Svinos was deceived by the bounce and when Scottish import Allen Turnbull got possession Svinos bowled him over inside the penalty area.

Arno Bertogna took the spot-kick and crashed it onto the upright. The ball rebounded to the APIA captain and he side-footed it into the empty net. Referee Ken Small pointed to the centre circle and Bertogna breathed a sigh of relief.

Canterbury's players protested vehemently that the goalkeeper had not touched the ball and therefore Bertogna's goal couldn't stand as indicated by the linesman. The referee then changed his decision and awarded a free kick to Canterbury.

The miss proved costly for in the 36th minute the home team increased its lead. Zrilic was once again the scorer, this time from a 30 metre free kick which beat Pezzano at the near post. Zrilic had an inspired first 45 minutes.

Both sides could have added to the score but for some wayward passing at the crucial moment.

The eroded and pot-holed pitch contributed considerably to the scrappy play and continually frustrated players from both teams. Arlington Oval undeniably ranks amongst the

Man of the match:
PETER ZRILIC
(Canterbury)

worse playing surfaces in Australia.

APIA's quest to retrieve respectability started from the opening whistle of the second half. Canterbury's goalkeeper Chris Hummell was kept very busy and quickly pulled off two fine saves from Janusz Baran and Bertogna.

Baran always looked dangerous when in possession but it was his countryman who changed the complexion of the game by scoring his second goal in successive matches.

Terry Butler provided the good lead-up work in the 70th minute and the experienced Edward Lorens made time to look up and note the goalkeeper's positioning before elegantly curling the ball out of Hummell's reach.

Inspired by the goal, APIA went all-out for the equaliser. In the 77th minute, Baran manufactured a great chance when he drove a hard low ball across the face of goal but Turnbull slid it past the unguarded net.

With just a minute remaining, APIA bagged the goal it was threatening to score. Zivko Hristovski twice figured in a sparkling move which was emphatically concluded by Vic Bozanic who followed play upfield to power the ball in from five metres.

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EDITOR: Laurie Schwab
ASSISTANT EDITOR: Craig MacKenzie
MANAGING EDITOR: Leonard J. Shaw
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Joe Palatsides
NEW SOUTH WALES: Gordon Durnford, The Globe Bridge Co, 64 Victoria St, North Sydney 2060. Phone: (02) 957 2033

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Freshwater	5	2	5	19	24	12
Avala	4	3	5	12	14	11
Polonia	3	5	4	16	20	11
Penrith City	3	0	9	15	32	6
Fairy Meadow	2	0	10	10	18	4

URUGUAY 1 (Mosquera 20th) MELITA EAGLES 1 (Farnsworth 71st) at Mona Park.
URUGUAY: Rosano 7, O'Donnell 8, Woods 8, Pinz 7 (46th Perdomo 7), Tomasich 7, Mosquera 5, Carrasco 5, Cuba 6 (sent off 71st), Genc 6, Van Helden 5, (86th Vecchietti), Calcaterra 6.
MELITA EAGLES: Avelino 7, Laing 7, Lomas 8, McCoy 7, Williams 7, Tredennick 7, Farnsworth 8 (60th Callanan), Vial 5 (sent off 38th), Farnsworth 7, Foxman 7, Dalton 5.
Best Players for Air Malta award: 3. O'Donnell, 2. Lomas, 1. Farrugia.

AVALA 2 (Radak 18th, Filipovic 35th) PENRITH CITY 3 (Hutton pen - 51st, Hunter 66th, 71st) at Knights Park.
AVALA: Thunhor - Blackburn 7, Adagic 6, Pena 6, Divan 6 - Kodor 8, Filipovic 7, Marino 5 (60th Cootes 8) - Jeffery 6 (80th Radic), Brown 6, Radak 7.
PENRITH CITY: Edwards 7 - Hutton 7, Campbell 8, Hebb 7, Shaw 7 - Jameson 8, C. Thompson 7, Cross 7, Quernby 7 - Martinez 7, (Kerrigan 80th), Gray 6 (Hunter 9 - 46th).
Best players for Air Malta award: 3. Hunter, 2. Kodor, 1. Campbell.

ROCKDALE ILINDEN 5 (Risteovski 27th, 74th, Genovese 30th, 87th, Nastevski 76th) FRESHWATER 1 (Berry Pen, 56th) at Hurstville Oval.
ILINDEN: Barry 7 - G. Wilson 7, Plovski 8, D. Wilson 7, Rodas 7 - Tortevski 8, Darlington 76 (Jones 66th), Nastovski 7 - Nastevski 8, Genovese 8, Risteovski 8.
FRESHWATER: Smith 5 - J. Bottalico 5, Sterrey 6, Watt 6, Green 5 (sent off 80th), A. Bottalico 7, Driene 6, Corrigan 5 (Duckling), Berry 6 - Walker 5, Giannone 6 (Sandher).
Best players for Air Malta award: 3. Tortevski, 2. Risteovski, 1. Genovese.

POLONIA 1 (Sobczyk 37th) KURINGAI 1 (Bass 16th) at Chopin Park.
POLONIA: Anderson 7, Robertson 7, Lasak 6 (Mahamah 44th - 7), Kulwicki 8, Pratt 7 - Colusso 7, Geeke 6 (55th Chou 7), Sobczyk 8, Drys 8 - Pop 6, Janic 6.
KURINGAI: Lacey 8 - Kevens 6, Bertram 6, Watson 7, Goldworthy 7 - Grooms 6, Quigley 6, Williamson 6, Sutherland 7 - Nite 6, Bass 7.
Best players for Air Malta award: 3. Sobczyk, 2. Lacey, 1. Kulwicki.

SUTHERLAND 1 (Harrington 42nd) FAIRY MEADOW 0 at Seymour Shaw.
SUTHERLAND: Burroughs 7 - Nelson 8, Terry 8, Burrows 8, Cox 8 - Cashman 6, Meades 7, Harrington 7, Johnstone 6 (80th Lerond) - Hughes 8, Sharpe 6.
FAIRY MEADOW: Kravovic 7 - White 8, Jones 8, Berringer 8, Burleigh 8 - Condon 6 (80th O'Brien), Cario 8, Kerr 6, Richardson 7 - Kirwan 6, Bell 5.
Best players for Air Malta award: 3. Hughes, 2. Cario, 1. Terry.

MANLY WARRINGAH 1 (Marshall 20th Pen) WOLLONGONG MACEDONIA 1 (Giraldi 55th) at Cromer Park.
MANLY: Catlin 8 - Dean 6, Dick 7, Robin 6, Van Egmond 8 - Marshall 8, Campbell 7, Stuart 8 - McIntosh 5, Avian 8, Davison 6 (Dennis 73rd).
MACEDONIA: G. Robinson 8 - Muhlbauer 7, Talevski 7, Sweeney 7, Ruskin 7, Wellbourne 8, Todorovski 7, Bingham 8 - Robinson 6 (A. Campbell 89th), Gardener 5, Giraldi 6.
Best players for Air Malta award: 3. Bingham (WM), 2. Van Egmond (MW), 1. Stuart (MW).

2nd Grade

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
MELITA EAGLES	8	3	14	10	9	11
FRESHWATER	7	2	3	25	16	16
SUTHERLAND	6	3	19	15	16	16
KURINGAI	6	4	23	15	14	14
Fairy Meadow	6	2	4	21	16	14
Penrith City	6	1	5	23	21	13
Manly Warringah	6	3	20	17	13	13
Avala	5	1	6	18	19	11
Uruguay	3	3	6	21	27	9
Macedonia	3	5	19	30	7	9
Rock. Ilinden	3	1	9	22	40	5
Polonia	2	1	9	31	25	5

2nd & 3rd Divisions

Division Two results: Canterbury - Kingsford Hellene 2-3; Lebanon - Campbelltown 2-0; Bathurst - Gladesville 0-4; Dee Why - North Bankstown 1-0; Blacktown - Gladesville 1-0; Yugal - Artarmon 3-0.

Div. Two Table

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
GLADESVILLE 10	1	3	5	3	21	11
KINGSFORD 10	0	2	26	9	20	2
YUGAL	7	1	3	27	13	15
NTH BANKSTOWN	6	2	4	18	8	14
Campbelltown	4	4	19	15	12	12
Dee Why	4	3	5	16	11	11
Macedonia	4	5	19	30	7	10
Blacktown	3	4	11	19	10	9
Artarmon	3	3	6	19	9	9
Bathurst	3	2	7	11	21	8
Queens Park	3	1	8	13	28	7
Canterbury	2	1	9	9	32	5

Division Three results: 3.2.

Div. Three Table

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
GRANVILLE 10	5	0	5	22	19	15
BONDI	5	5	2	18	12	15
WEST UTD	6	3	3	17	13	15
ROOBY HILL 4	6	2	5	15	10	14
Nth Ryde	7	0	5	15	17	14
Mt Druitt	5	2	5	13	12	12
Fairy Meadow	1	10	9	7	3	3
Camp. Gunners	5	1	6	16	11	11
Moorebank	5	1	6	14	17	11
Pl. Hacking	3	5	18	21	10	9
Baulkham Hills	3	3	6	23	9	9
King Tomislav	1	10	10	28	3	3

Melita to surprise Manly

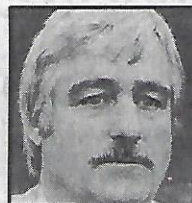
The congestion at the top of the NSW State League ladder could be cleared in round 13 if my predictions are correct.
Manly Warringah, beaten at home just once this year welcomes Melita Eagles, the team with a very poor away record. Melita lost twice and drew three times in its first five away games this year.
However, I feel that this time Melita will turn the corner and surprise Manly. There is a lot of speed and talent at Melita in 1986 and a fine run, I feel, is about to begin at the expense of the Sea Eagles. Foxman, Farnsworth and Dalton will have too much bite for Catlin, Dick and Co.
Uruguayan Auburn, 4-0 winner

over Penrith City at Mona Park earlier this year, should repeat this scoreline to get its momentum going. With Calcaterra in full flight and Perdomo settling in well, the visitors are well equipped to give Penrith more than a large handicap.
Don Campbell will have to work overtime to keep his side from being swamped.
Sutherland travels to Berkely on Sunday hoping for a repeat of its 1-0 win in the first round at Seymour Shaw Park. However, Macedonia hasn't conceded a goal at home since its first loss of the season to Manly. With Hughes, Hall and Meades struggling to score and the Macedonian strikers similarly ineffective so far

this season it is going to be very difficult to see anything eventuate other than a draw.
Fairy Meadow, a surprise winner over Ilinden at Hurstville earlier this year, will be looking for a repeat performance at Corral. It is going to be a tall order but not beyond this fighting outfit from the South Coast. Ilinden must be favored with Tortevski, Nastevski, Risteovski and Nastovski holding sway in the centre of the park.
Freshwater is seeking revenge for its loss to Polonia at Chopin Park and must go into this match at Narrabeen Sports Centre as a slight favorite.
Much will depend on the form of Barry Walker of Freshwater and Hen-

jek Sobczyk of Polonia.
Walker could turn this match into a nightmare for Polonia while Sobczyk is back to aid his side after a six-month, self-imposed retirement. His return has seen some brilliant displays by the veteran and his influence will be stamped on this match no doubt.
Ku-Ring-Gai must be favored to beat troubled Avala at Parkland. The internal problems at Avala must affect the team's performance and it is difficult to see an evenly balanced Kuringai missing out on the points.
Craig Bass and Mark Nite should create too many problems for the depleted Avala defence.

Johns: God punished Fairy Meadow



● Noon

Harry Noon, that much travelled coach, has replaced Jovan Djordjevic at Avala.

Djordjevic became the latest coaching casualty following Avala's loss to Polonia at Chopin Park. The ex-Marconi player was summoned to Avala's recent extraordinary meeting. With two exceptions, all Avala players attended.

During the two-hour meeting, the committee and players expressed satisfaction with the work of Djordjevic, but the unhappy coach could not continue his job at Avala after the loss to Polonia.

Some of the players have let me down badly, and my wish to have them removed from the club was not granted. In those circumstances and despite the committee's approval of my work, I could not continue," Djordjevic said.

Claims by Djordjevic that he was undermined by some players fell on deaf ears. As we go to press, Noon is about to sign a contract with Avala for the rest of the season.

Berti Mariani will not coach Fairy Meadow after all. The ex-Marconi defender was very keen to take over as player-coach, however, after playing in a friendly for Fairy Meadow last Tuesday week, Mariani realised that his injuries had not healed properly.

Larry Berringer, the Fairy Meadow central defender, is filling the position of player-coach at present and all indications point to Berringer retaining the post till the end of this season.

Mike Johnson, who quit Fairy Meadow last week, was the focus of media attention. Johnson has retired from soccer, and this time with a heavy heart but fully convinced that he has made the right decision.

"God has punished my side for my involvement with soccer on Sundays," John was quoted as saying last week.

Bingham
John Bingham, Wollongong Macedonias player-coach, led by example to steer his side out of trouble at Cromer Park and away from precious points.

This top-of-the-table clash provided open football at times but with defences able to hold out well.

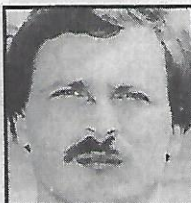
Manly, on top during the first period, took the lead after 18 minutes from a penalty by Paul Marshall. Jimmy Campbell was brought down inside the area and Marshall made no mistake in hitting his spot kick.

The home side continued to attack and with Marshall, Stuart and Van Egmond playing well it looked as if the Sea Eagles were about to collect both points.

However, the second half saw Macedonia come back strongly with Bingham leading the charge. His shooting gave Catlin some anxious moments and within 10 minutes of the restart Macedonia drew level. Successive corner kicks for Macedonia saw Paul Giraldi use his speed to pounce on the loose ball inside the area and steer it wide of Catlin.

Unlucky Meadow
Fairy Meadow has taken over bottom spot from Penrith City, but the side must regard itself a trifle unlucky.

This is the fifth time this season it has been beaten by an opponent and with all due respect to Sutherland's captain Mark Harrington - the scorer of the goal - it turned out to be a scrappy one indeed.



● Djordjevic

It came from a goalmouth scramble with John Kravovic turning the ball into the path of Harrington and his shot squeezed inside the post with a host of defenders on the line.
Apart from that Fairy Meadow was well led by Larry Berringer and Paul Jones and despite some fine attacking play by Scott Hughes, contained the home side.

Sobczyk hoodoo!
Polonia and Kuringai shared the points at Chopin Park, just as they did at Parklands earlier this year.

It was Jenjek Sobczyk who scored last year for Polonia from an identical position as he did last Sunday to earn Polonia a point. Lacey could do little to stop the well-timed and accurately-placed free kick which sneaked inside the near post in the 37th minute.

Kuringai had led by a goal from Craig Bass in the 16th and looked set to demolish Polonia. Bass was on hand to head past Anderson following a corner kick by Nigel Grooms.

Chris Quigley brought Stefan Janic down in the 37th to set up the free kick for Sobczyk and the equaliser, but Kuringai should have been at least a goal up as Lee Sutherland was given an opportunity in the 43rd. He missed and Polonia was left off the hook.

Freshwater stale
Rockdale Ilinden demolished Warringah Freshwater at Hurstville scoring five and missing as many opportunities.

Vlado Tortevski failed to get on the scoring sheet, but was once again his side's best player, setting up moves for his forwards as well as breaking up Freshwater's midfield play.

Zlatko Nastevski, Tortevski's ex-ardor team mate, continued his good form with yet another goal to stretch his lead to three goals in the battle for the Inway Pty Ltd top scorer's award.

Jimmy Risteovski broke through but shot wide early then struck to give his side the lead in the 27th. A through ball by Genovese was met with some force by Risteovski and Smith was beaten.

Only three minutes later and following a free kick by Zlatko Nastevski, in came Genovese to head past the fallen Smith.

Mike Berry gave Freshwater some hope with his penalty conversion in the 56th, but the game was sealed in the space of two minutes soon after.

A through ball by Nastevski saw Risteovski flash past the Freshwater defence to score in the 74th, then some good work by Tortevski saw Genovese race in to hit a powerful drive.

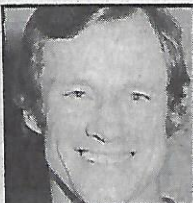
Don Smith parried but Nastevski closed in to pick up the rebound and score.

With only three minutes left, Nastovski's lob found Genovese who made it 5-1.

Hunter strikes
Ian Hunter, ex-youth international, came on as a substitute at Knights Park to torment Avala and turn a 0-2 half time deficit in a 3-2 win for Penrith City.

A through ball by internal problems arising from the departure of coach Jovan Djordjevic, looked to have left all its troubles behind as it bounced Penrith all over the park scoring through Radak and Filipovic.

It was Radovan Filipovic who crossed for Tomislav Radal to head Avala into the lead after 18 minutes. Avala's second came from a well-taken penalty by Filipovic in the 35th.



● Johnson

half time and immediately set about the task of getting Penrith back into the match. He was brought down in the 51st for a penalty converted by Hunter to cut Avala's lead to one goal.

Then came an Alex Jamieson pass which was met by Hunter for the equaliser in the 66th. Jamieson to Hunter five minutes later and Penrith led 3-2.

An extraordinary game and not a very bright start for Avala's new coach Harry Noon.

Avala sadly missed Zoran Blazic and Petar Marjanovic as well as Micky Bratkovic, one of the most talented players in the State League.

For Penrith, at long last off the bottom of the table, this is just the start of the long road back.

Vial, Cuba off
Premiership contenders Uruguay and Melita were involved in a fierce battle at Mona Park.

NSW SKYPACK STATE LEAGUE

TNT SKYPAK

THE WORLD WIDE COURIERS

PROGRAMME OF MATCHES

STATE LEAGUE, ROUND 13 Sunday 29.6.86

Melita Eagles - Manly Warr. Melita Stadium
Penrith City - Uruguayan, Cook Park
Woll. Macedonia - Sutherland, Berkeley Sports Ground
Fairy Meadow - Rock Ilinden, Corral Memorial Park
Freshwater - Polonia, Narrabeen Fitness Camp
Ku-Ring-Gai - Avala, Parklands Oval

II DIVISION, Saturday 28.6.86

Canterbury - Lebanon, Blick Oval
Kingsford - Artarmon, Kensington Oval
Queen's Park - Yugal, Erskineville Oval
Sunday 29.6.86

Campbelltown - Bathurst, Lynwood Park
Gladesville - Dee Why, Pioneer Park
Nth Bankstown - Blacktown Utd, Potts Park

III DIVISION, Saturday 28.6.86

Port Hacking - Moorebank, Seymour Shaw
Baulkham Hills - Granville Chile, Ted Horwood Res.
Sunday 29.6.86

Camp. Gunners - North Ryde RSL, Bensley Rd.
Uni N.S.W. - Mt Druitt Town, Little Bay Oval
King Tomislav - Bondi Marine, Croatian Sports Centre
Roody Hill - West United, Cawarra Park

STATE LEAGUE ROUND 14 Sunday 6.7.86

Sutherland - Melita Eagles, Seymour Shaw Park
Manly Warr - Uruguayan, Cromer Park
Rockdale Ilinden - Wollongong Mac. Hurstville Oval
Polonia - Fairy Meadow, Chopin Park
Freshwater - Avala, Narrabeen Fitness Camp
Kuringa - Penrith City, Parklands Oval

II DIVISION Saturday 5.7.86

Bathurst - Canterbury, Proctor Park
Dee Why - Campbelltown, Dee Why Oval
Sunday 6.7.86

Lebanon - Kingsford, Jensen Oval
Blacktown Utd - Gladesville, Francis Park
Yugal - Nth Bankstown, Black Oval
Queens Park - Artarmon, Erskineville Oval

III DIVISION Saturday 5.7.86

Bondi Marine - Campbelltown, Waverley Oval
North Ryde - Mt Druitt Town, Magdala Park
Roody Hill - Uni N.S.W., Cawarra Park
Sunday 6.7.86

Moorebank - King Tomislav, Hammondville
Granville Chile - Port Hacking, Garside Park
West United - Baulkham Hills, Harold Road Res.



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INDOOR SOCCER (international rules)

DON'T FORGET THE NEXT WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS ARE HELD IN AUSTRALIA



● Cassar of Victoria scores against Australia in their recent match at the Sports and Entertainment Centre in Melbourne. Australia won 5-4.

Makedonia and Split move into the finals

Makedonia 3 Devils 2

The Devils began this qualifying final of the Preston Youth League by having a number of shots at goal and it was Steve Bourinair who put the first away in the right hand corner for the Devils.

Makedonia's Attila Salantiglu put the first away for his team soon after the Devils had scored, and Makedonia then began its assault on goals, but although dominating, the half-time score was 1-1.

The second half saw the Devils, in the fifth minute, through Andrew, scoring their second goal.

But Makedonia equalised in the last minute, so this final went into extra time.

In the first minute of extra time, Slav Kondinski's throw-in set up Attila Salantiglu who put the ball in

for a goal. This was to be the deciding goal and Makedonia moved into the finals.

Makedonia 1 Split 4

The opening of this semi-final in the Senior League saw Split score through Steve Sinkovic and then Pericic with an easy shot put it past the keeper to make the score 2-0.

Pericic scored again early in the second half and scored again soon after for his hat-trick.

The score was then 4-0. It was in the last minute that Makedonia's Velce Kondinski was able to put a score on the board but this was to no avail as the game was over at 4-1.

Split now goes into the finals.

Goodonya through
In the game between Euronations and Goodonya to find out which team was to go directly into the finals, Goodonya played it tough and tight equalising at 1-1 at the end of full time.

In time-on Goodonya scored through Dennis Mahoney so Euronations now have to contend with Split in the semi finals.

Brilliant Cosmos
In the Youth League game between Makedonia B and Junior Cosmos, the brilliant young Cosmos boys had a 5-0 win.

The game was not without incident as three Makedonia players were given red cards.

★★★
Spectators are welcome to attend the finals to be played at the Preston Technical School in Cramer Street, Preston.

The new season at Preston starts on August 1. Contact Dean Poropat on 480 3963 for more information.

Operators too smooth, Riviera's Gashi stars

Man of the match:
MAURICE BISETTO
(S Operators)

S. Operators 17 Bonds 3

SMOOTH OPERATORS:
Terzini 7, Micheloudakas 9, Bisetto 9, Boin 8, Filipouli 8.
BONDS: Joakim 8, Koulas 6, Argyrou, Henderson, C Papaconstantinou 5, P Papaconstantinou 5, Marasco 6.

With minutes Maurice Bisetto had scored four goals, making it look easy and giving Bonds a tough time.

New player for Bonds, Peter Papaconstantinou, was not going to give up easily and his low shot beat Terzini to give Bonds their first goal.

Another great pass from Marasco to Papaconstantinou gave Bonds their second goal, soon followed by Papaconstantinou's hat-trick.

Ernie Boin and Frank Filipelli were next to score for Smooth Operators and the lethal Micheloudakas could only manage one goal in the first half from his many shots.

Four minutes into the second half Micheloudakas scored his second goal.

Peter constantinou could not manage any more goals although he had many scoring attempts.

The game continued in a very one-sided fashion with Micheloudakas scoring another four goals and Bisetto another two for the Operators. The game ended, much to Bonds' relief with a scoreline of 17-3.

Hard battle

Riviera and Red Devils fought a hard battle with goals from both teams coming in the first half.

Paul Romano from Devils managed a hat-trick as did Frank Tkalecic from Riviera.

At half time it could have been anyone's game, as the score was 7-5, but Riviera kept its defence well disciplined and there was no change to the score.

The Man-of-the-match award went to Tony Gashi of Riviera.

Canons fire

Although both teams have red stripes, it was Calypos who "saw red" as they were downed by the very strong Canons with Spiro Alatsas starring.

With seven men in the Canons' squad, they used their nose in subbing their players at the right time to

give their team the strength it needed.

Chiefs rule

Kaiser Chiefs had an easy 6-1 victory over Nike.

Their goals were distributed throughout the side which showed a fine team effort.

Nike built up a number of fouls mainly through captain Bill Orfanidis who was making desperate attempts to score.

Six-goal Sandro

A double hat-trick for Sandro Bastasin of Shalters, who are sponsored by Machaness Produce, helped to bring them an easy victory.

Carlo Innamorati managed two more goals for Shalters, but the rest of his team could not put together any more moves with which to make a mark on the scoreboard and two more goals from Shalters made the score 8-2.

Group B

The Group B section kicked off last week at the Donvale Centre.

Carcioloffi Rangers played the White Peles, who have some outdoor soccer stars in their side

such as the Sabadussi brothers and Carlo Baravelli.

But the more experienced Carcioloffi Rangers quickly showed the White Peles how the games was played. Even so, the match ended in a 3-3 draw indicating the strength of the White Peles.

★ ★ ★

Ethnics United played Split, which in previous practice games proved to be a good side and at half time Split was ahead 3-0.

Ethnics United have players who have never played together before but Paul Allister scored four beautiful goals for United. Nevertheless, Pericic and Bevanda for Split managed another three and Split ran out a 6-4 winner.

★ ★ ★

There are a few more vacancies for the Group B competition and any interested teams are asked to register as soon as possible with Dean Poropat on 480 3963.

Top Scorers

GROUP A:
26 — Frank Tkalecic (Raiders)
22 — John Micheloudakas (Smooth Operators)
17 — Sandro Bastasin (Shalters)

Gladiators grow!

The new season at Thomastown begins in a few weeks time and in preparation several practice games were played recently.

Gladiators met Wanderers in what turned out to be a very exciting game. From the outset both teams attacked in a fashion that surprised everyone. Shots towards both goals were plentiful and the two goalies had their hands full.

Guest player Vasco Tanevski scored twice in quick succession to give Gladiators a 2-0 lead but within minutes the sides were on level terms with goals by Ivan Murador and "Triff".

Gladiators then hit the lead again when Chris Tamoskos scored but Wanderers pegged them back once more with a lovely goal scored by "Triff".

Towards the end of the half Gladiators broke clear of the Wanderers' defence and scored two more goals through Tanevski and Tamoskos to lead 5-3.

The second half was not as exciting

but still managed to produce two goals for each team. "Triff" and Tamoskos both notched up hat-tricks to add to Tanevski's in the first half.

The final score of 7-5 in Gladiators' favor shows the endeavor both sides put into the game and should they continue in this manner they no doubt will improve on last season's effort.

In other games, new team Metaxas took on last season's preliminary finalist Furious Five which was missing three of last season's players.

The pace was quick as was the passing and some excellent moves were put together by both teams.

Metaxas managed to adapt to the rules better however and won 7-3.

The losing finalist from last season, Vasco de Gama, also was missing several players and met Marazico. Vasco managed to come out on top by a score of 7-3.

Practice matches will continue for a few more weeks so if you would like to enter a team at Thomastown don't hesitate to contact Dean Poropat on 480 3963.

16 — Spiro Alatsas (Canons)										
GROUP B:										
4 — Paul Allister (Ethnics United)										
3 — Ante Pericic (Split)										
Group A results: Smooth Operators 17 Bonds 3, Shalters 8 Disciples 2, Kaiser Chiefs 6 Nike 1, Canons 5 Calypos 0, Riviera 7 Red Devils 5.										
Group A standings										
	W	D	L	F	A	P				
Smooth Operators	5	0	0	56	10	15				
Riviera	4	1	0	43	18	14				
Kaiser Chiefs	4	0	1	34	17	13				
Canons	3	2	0	26	14	13				
Shalters	3	1	2	32	26	11				
Nike	1	0	4	17	32	7				
Disciples	1	0	4	17	34	7				
Calypos	1	0	4	15	37	7				
Bonds	1	0	4	13	51	7				
Red Devils	1	0	4	20	34	6				
Group B results: Goodonya 16 Raiders 2, Split 6 Ethnic United 4, White Peles 3 Carcioloffi Rangers 3.										
Group B standings										
	W	D	L	F	A	P				
Split	1	0	0	6	4	3				
White Peles	0	1	0	3	3	2				
Carcioloffi	0	1	0	3	3	2				
Ethnic United	0	1	0	4	6	1				
Raiders	0	0	0	0	0	0				
Manchester	0	0	0	0	0	0				

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Seniors & Juniors required Mixed Teams are greatly welcomed
MELBOURNE ELIMINATORS (PRESTON, THOMASTOWN, & DONVALE)



Here comes Creany - again!

I've lost count of the number of times in "Soccer Action" over the past couple of seasons that I've said that John Creany is on his way back from Scotland to rejoin Northcote but let's say it once more.

Creany was expected to arrive on Tuesday (yesterday) as we went to press. If so, he'll be rushed into Northcote's starting line-up for Saturday's Greek derby at John Cain Reserve against Caulfield.

Both outfits play a very old style of soccer so there should be plenty of goalmouth incidents here.

Caulfield's chances nosedived when it lost both its first team and reserve goalkeeper against Morwell Falcons last weekend due to injury so I'll stick out my neck and tip a Northcote victory.

Sunday's big Italian derby at Smith Reserve pits former Macedonia team mates, Peter Boyle and George McMillan, against each other in a tactical battle that I think Fawknar will win.

Boyle, the coach of Fawknar, and McMillan, Thomastown's player-coach, will be fully aware of the importance of this clash. For Boyle, this game will decide whether or not he can realistically eye the title or whether a top four berth is the most he can aim for.

For McMillan much more is at stake thanks to the rumor mongers who have been talking about the possibility of him losing the coaching job. I'm not going to take up much space with that topic, but the rumor that I heard is that Thomastown chairman Peter Balasone is determined to give the club stability and allow McMillan to develop his coaching talents.

Boyle has better players at his disposal and that's why I'm going for Fawknar. Fabio Mancinelli will be suspended for this game but Fawknar midfielder Dave Nixon shouldn't have any trouble finding the ground this week and his talents will give Fawknar the bite

it needs in the middle of the park.

Bobby McLachlan will love this.

Morwell Falcons will continue their revival and knock Springvale City off top spot in State League when they meet at North Crinigan Reserve on Saturday.

Gerry Clarke's presence has given Falcons the solidity they needed at the back while John O'Callaghan is revelling in the responsibility he's been given in a central midfield role in Falcons' 4-3-3 formation.

Ian Stirtion is having his best ever season in State League. Now that his finishing touch is back, Falcons are a far more formidable formation.

My bet is that McLachlan will give Mike Bissinger the role of marking Stirtion and I'm tipping Stirtion to win that battle. Edna Bell is a cert to tag O'Callaghan and although Gordon Bentley may pick up Peter Verechia there are other candidates for that task.

What is certain is that I'll get plenty of stick from the Spring-

vale lads if they win but I'm not unduly worried. Like I said, it's going to be Morwell's day.

It's Frankston Pines' turn to traverse the contours of J.T. Gray Reserve on Saturday. The main problem confronting the players isn't whether to use a long stud or a short stud. Tackety boots are best suited to that surface.

Ally Dick probably still has a pair so Pines should win.

Bobby McGuinness is in doubt with a knee injury for Western Suburbs' clash with Croynod at Ralph Reserve on Sunday. Without him, Suburbs lose a lot of attacking bite, so Croynod should collect the points.

Croydon midfielder Matt McDonald, will be back from suspension so coach Peter Orlerton will be able to use a full-strength line-up.

Box Hill always battles to beat Ringwood Wilhelmina and now that Wilhelmina is on a bit of a roll, the Hillies will find Sunday's Wembley Park clash a tough assignment.

Polonia hopes to have Rob Nelson from Frankston Pines

in its starting line-up when it tackles St Albans Dinamo at Raleigh Reserve on Sunday.

Dinamo's Croatian import, Ivan Duzel, showed in the first half against Fawknar last weekend that he's a class performer and once Duzel starts putting it together for the full 90 minutes, he'll be hard to stop.

Dinamo should win. Here are this weekend's games with likely winners in capitals:

SATURDAY

MORWELL FALCONS v Springvale City at North Crinigan Reserve, 3pm.
Melbourne Hungaria v FRANKSTON PINES at J.T. Gray Reserve, 3pm.
NORTHCOTE v Caulfield at John Cain Reserve, 3pm.

Western Suburbs v CROYDON at Ralph Reserve, 3pm.
Polonia v ST ALBANS DINAMO at Raleigh Reserve, 3pm.

FAWKNER v Thomastown at Smith Reserve, 3pm.
Box Hill v Ringwood Wilhelmina (draw) at Wembley Park, 3pm.

SUNDAY

FRANKSTON PINES 0 BOX HILL 0 at Monterey Reserve, Saturday.

FRANKSTON PINES: Boland 6 — Thurlow 7, Macleod 8, Cumming 7, Watson 7 — Dick 6, Ross 6, Cullen 7, Miller 6 — Webster 6, Armstrong 6. Coach: Danny McMinimee.
BOX HILL: McKinlay 7 — McPhee 5, Davidson 5, D. Hennessy 7, Roodhouse 5 (in), Azopardo 7 (H.T.), Taylor 5, Hughes 5, Burton 6 — Gagic 5 (Ramos 76th), Griffin 5, McKenna 6, Coach: Keith Webster.

Best three for Ametco award: 3 Macleod (Pines), 2 Hennessy (B.H.), 1 Cumming (Pines).

CAULFIELD CITY 2 (Taylor 16th, Zemunik penalty 55th) MORWELL FALCONS (Stirtion 25th, 81st, A. Cassar 41st, Verechia 85th) at Princes Park, Saturday.

CAULFIELD CITY: Alexandropoulos 7 — Vagias 7, Tofari 6, Tataridis 5 — Bitsonis 8, Koutos 5, Taylor 7 (Amanatidis 80th), Theodorou 6 (Wardman 71), Zemunik 6, Filippou 7. Coach: Takis Svingos.
MORWELL FALCONS: Ecott 6 — Bingham 7, Bruns 5, Clarke 8, Tran 7 — E. Cassar 7, O'Callaghan 8, Tullis 5 (D. Wilson 61st) — Verechia 7, Stirtion 8, A. Cassar 7 (Basich 82nd) Coach: Dave O'Connor.

Best three for Ametco award: 3 Stirtion (MF), 2 Zemunik (Caulf), 1 Clarke (MF).

ST ALBANS DINAMO 2 (Duzel 39th, 45th) FAWKNER 1 (Sabbatino 42nd) at Churchill Reserve, Saturday.

ST ALBANS DINAMO: M. Grgic 6 — Dragovic 5 (Ramjak H.T. 6), Kracic 6, Brkic 6, Kuzman 6 — Batovic 6, M. Wilson 7 (in, S. Grgic 83rd), Gulin 5, Rustovic 7 — Morovic 5, Duzel 7. Coach: Tony Vrgic.
FAWKNER: R. Wilson 6 — Schipano 5 (Ferra 66th), Fattore 6, Bordignon 6 — Walsh 8, Chavelli 6 (Nixon 66th), Sabbatino 9, Quigley 9, Di Cecco 6 — Mancinelli (sent off 25th), Cozzella 6. Coach: Peter Boyle.

Best three for Ametco award: 3 Sabbatino (Fawk), 2 Quigley (Fawk), 1 Walsh (Fawk).

POLOIA 0 SPRINGVALE CITY 2 (J. Nelson 44th, Athersych 62nd), at Raleigh Reserve, Sunday.

POLOIA: Dachs 9, Ljaparski 6, A. Czapiak 7, Faruga 6 (Zsembery 73rd), Smolarek 6 — P. Czapiak 6, Wysocki 7, Kapioglu 5 — G. Czapiak 5 (Gregorcuk 73rd), Warszwinski 6, Stewart 5. Coach: Eugene Snopkowski.

SPRINGVALE CITY: Whiteside 7 — Bentley 6, G. Bannon 7, Bissinger 8, Hobson 7 — J. Nelson 8, Deans 6, Bell 7, Garvey 6 — Athersych 7, House 6. Coach: Bobby McLachlan.

Best three for Ametco award: 3 J. Nelson (SV), 2 Bissinger (SV), 1 Bell (SV).

RINGWOOD WILHELMINA 1 (Bakker 84th) WESTERN SUBURBS 0 at Jubilee Park, Sunday.

RINGWOOD WILHELMINA: O. Wilson 6, K. Kelly 7, C. Vermeers 7, Lange 7 — Thomson 7, Bates 7, Bakker 7, Bosland 6 — Nijholt 6. Storm 6. Coach: Tom Kelly.
WESTERN SUBURBS: Cinc 6 — Farmer 6, Demovski 7, Smallman 7, Harnal 7, Swanson 7, Ciesien 7, O'Connell 7, Palmieri 6 — McGuinness 8 (in), D. McLeod 85th, McCusker 7. Coach: Jimmy Kondas.

Best three for Ametco award: 3 C. Coker (RW), 2 McGuinness (WS), 1 Stevenson (WS).

CROYDON 2 (French 72nd, Humble 80th) NORTHCOTE 1 (Toal 74th) at Croydon Park, Sunday.

CROYDON: Easby 7 — Brown 7, O'Reilly 7, Tansley 7, Beach 9 — Tai 6 (in), Beale 70th, MacLean 7, Livingstone 6 — Brogan 7, French 7, Humble 8. Coach: Peter Orlerton.
NORTHCOTE: Gannopoulos 7, Silade 6, Patriotis 8, Bozakis 7, J. Constantinou 6 — Gannopoulos 7, Tolo 7, Drakeford 6 — P. Constantinos 5, Toal 7, Bekiras 7. Coach: Roy MacLaren.

Best three for Ametco award: 3 Beech (C), 2 Patriotis (N), 1 Humble (C).

THOMASTOWN 1 (Flaherty 34th) MELBOURNE HUNGARIA 1 (L. Theodosopoulos 28th) at Partridge Reserve, Sunday.

THOMASTOWN: Rapotti 7 — Carfora 7, Pianeto 7, McMillan 7, Casserone 7 — O. Martina 7, Kerr 7 (in), Hackett 54th, G. Coyle 5, Ihan 6, Flaherty 7, Higgins 7. Coach: George McMillan.
MELBOURNE HUNGARIA: Kiss 7 — Szabo 6, Edmondson 8, Bird 7, S. Vuk 6, Valske 6, Morrey 8, Tambazis 7 — Debono 5 (Mills 65th), Belitsky 6 (Sutherland), L. Theodosopoulos 8. Coach: Ian McCarr (in caretaker).

Best three for Ametco award: 3 Morrey (M), 2 L. Theodosopoulos (M), 1 Edmondson (M).

Buffalo State League Standings

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
SPRINGVALE	8	5	1	20	8	21
ST. ALB. DINAMO	7	6	1	21	8	20
FRANKSTON PINES	6	5	3	20	14	17
CROYDON	7	2	4	25	13	16
Box Hill	5	6	3	21	14	16
Fawknar	6	3	4	13	9	15
Western Suburbs	6	3	5	21	15	15
Morwell Falcons	6	2	6	25	22	14
Caulfield	6	1	7	23	28	13
Thomastown	3	6	5	12	15	12
R. Wilhelmina	4	3	7	13	28	11
Northcote	2	5	7	19	30	9
Melb-Hungaria	1	6	7	13	26	8
Polonia	2	3	9	19	27	7

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AMETCO TRAVEL AWARD

Ametco Travel, in conjunction with VSF Travel, will provide a return trip to Singapore for the 1986 State League Player of the Year.

Leading votegeters:

16 — D. Hennessy (Box Hill)
15 — Adams (Springvale)
14 — Dick (Pines), Bell (Springvale)
13 — Kracic (Dinamo)
12 — L. Theodosopoulos (Melbourne), M. Wilson (Dinamo)
11 — Burton (Box Hill), Cozzella (Fawknar), O'Callaghan (Morwell)
10 — Zemunik (Caulfield), Stirtion (Morwell)

Douglas sent off but the Doves hang on

DOVETON 1 (Johnson 1st) NUNAWADING CITY 1 (McCluskey 7th). Victorian Division One match at Waratah Reserve, Saturday.

DOVETON: Edwards, Bruce, Helbig, Brazil, Jackson, Douglas (sent off 5th), Sweeney, Papadopoulos, Johnson, Mayne, Buick, McNAWADING: CITY: Mader, Lawler, Charavalle, McCombe, Remmers, Hurleston, Mullett (Henkel 70th), Groenewald, Middlemass, Bastasin, Hoyle.

Doveton stretched its unbeaten run to three games in a match in which it played for 85 minutes with 10 men.

Doveton took the lead after only 30 seconds. Two Nunawading City defenders hesitated and allowed Sweeney to push the ball out to the right where Mayne centred for Johnson to score from close range.

Shortly after, Douglas was sent off, allegedly for swearing, and thereafter it was back-to-the-wall for the home side.

Just when it was looking as though Doveton might hold out, the equaliser came. Lawler took a free kick on the right. Edwards came out but could only get his fingertips

to the ball which flew to McCombe, lurking at the far post, who dropped it home.

MORROOLBARK 2 (Evans 4th, Priestley 81st) BELL PARK 0 Victorian Division Two match at Bell Park Soccer Ground, Saturday.

MORROOLBARK: Scanlon 8, Spink 9, Adams 9, Brack 9, Cubbit 8, Abraham 8, Gurney 8, Nantel 8, Priestley 8, Evans 8, Killey 9, BELL PARK: Inturisti 7, McNeillage 7, Corder (Vangel 32nd), Ortiz 7, Scern 7, Smilavsky 7, Babic 8 (in), Whittaker 80th), Tutone 8, Bond 9, Opperman 9, Tutcheil 8.

Morroolbark added another scalp to its haul when it downed Bell Park 2-0 and in so doing, cemented its top-of-the-table spot and now must be odds-on favorite for the championship.

The Barkers hit the front in the 4th minute after a great run by Peter Killey ended with him setting up Stuart Evans who tucked away the chance from close range.

The issue was settled in the 81st minute when Jim Spink, Ray Gurney and Paul Priestley combined well down the right. Priestley finished off the move with a firm shot to make it 2-0.

"I think our players need more protection from the referees. We are trying to improve ourselves but our efforts will amount to nothing if we keep having players on the sidelines through injuries that could have been avoided," said Pyrgos.

As usual there were plenty of goals scored at Princes Park and one of the most interesting tussles of the afternoon was between Morwell stopper Emil Bruns and Zemunik, Caulfield's leading scorer. Zemunik took the honors in that battle. He was too mobile for big Bruns.

But little Effe Cassar ran Caulfield left back Peter Stirlis ragged in the first half

and in the final analysis it was the strength of the Verechia-Ian Stirtion striking partnership that won the day for Morwell.

Caulfield fans must have been optimistic when their side hit the front in the 16th minute. Kenny Taylor floated in a free kick which was dropped by young Morwell goalie Alex Ecott and the ball ended up in the back of the net.

Zemunik appeared to be on-side when he scored in the 20th minute but the referee ruled otherwise after consulting his

linesman and Stirtion levelled in the 25th minute when he headed in off the post following an Effe Cassar cross.

In the 36th minute, a superb move was started by Zemunik. He beat Bruns, played the ball wide to John Bitsonis then took off for the Morwell penalty area. Bitsonis crossed and Zemunik's diving header forced a fine save from Ecott.

Four minutes from half time, Morwell took the lead. John O'Callaghan's long ball sent Anthony Cassar racing through the middle and he smacked the ball past Alexandropoulos for a well taken goal.

Jim Train was adjudged to have handled in the 55th minute and it was 2-2 after Zemunik converted from the penalty spot.

And that's the way the match seemed destined to end. Until Caulfield coach Takis Svingos brought off Taylor and put Tiger Amanatidis on. Caulfield immediately lost its discipline and Morwell restored its lead when O'Callaghan won the ball in midfield and played it wide to Harry Bingham. He cut inside and played the ball to Verechia who played it further inside to Stirtion and his low shot into the far corner made it 3-2.

Five minutes were left when Verechia headed in Stirtion's cross, clashing with Alexandropoulos in the process. Tsitsiris took over in goal for the last few minutes.

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By MICK MITTEN

Caulfield 2 Morwell F. 4

Scorers: Taylor 16th, Zemunik penalty 55th (C); Stirtion 25th, 81st, A. Cassar 41st, Verechia 85th (MF).

Venue: Princes Park, Saturday.

Caulfield reacted angrily to a refereeing decision which chalked off a Danny Zemunik goal in the first half and Caulfield secretary John Pyrgos has called for greater protection for his players after brothers Con and Michael Alexandropoulos were taken to hospital on Saturday.

The Alexandropoulos brothers both play in goal. Michael suffered a broken jaw in the reserves match and first team goalkeeper Con was taken to hospital with concussion after being flattened by Peter Verechia in the 85th minute. Verechia scored Morwell's fourth goal in that incident.

"I think our players need more protection from the referees. We are trying to improve ourselves but our efforts will amount to nothing if we keep having players on the sidelines through injuries that could have been avoided," said Pyrgos.

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SCOREBOARD

Northern Subs 2 3 6 20 26 7 Eagles Utd 2 3 6 20 26 7 Diamond Valley 2 2 14 19 30 6 Meibourne Utd 2 2 14 19 30 6		RESERVES Asot St Marks 9 0 2 23 15 18 Bahlyu City 8 1 2 27 12 18 Epping Thistle 8 1 2 24 16 17 Cliffingwood 5 1 2 34 13 13 Brinsford 4 1 18 13 11 1 Macca 4 3 4 19 22 11 Eagles Utd 2 2 5 21 28 10 Endeavour Hills 3 2 6 22 26 8 Meibourne Utd 3 1 7 18 23 7 Diamond Valley 2 2 6 19 29 7 Northern Subs 2 2 8 21 35 6 Phillip Inst 1 2 8 21 4		AMAT TWO Diggers West 7 1 2 21 11 15 Waverley Wndrs 6 2 2 30 14 11 La Trobe Utd 6 1 3 28 17 14 Hawthorn Utd 6 1 3 28 13 13 East Altona 6 0 8 25 12 12 Diggers West 6 0 8 25 12 12 Old Scotch 4 2 4 16 13 10 Concorde 3 2 5 15 20 8 Concorde 3 2 5 15 20 8 Oakleigh Utd 2 2 6 22 28 6 Nth Melbourne 0 0 10 4 56 0		RESERVES East Altona 7 3 0 28 12 17 La Trobe Utd 6 2 2 30 14 11 Waverley Wndrs 6 1 3 28 17 14 Hawthorn Utd 6 1 3 28 13 13 East Altona 6 0 8 25 12 12 Diggers West 6 0 8 25 12 12 Old Scotch 4 2 4 16 13 10 Concorde 3 2 5 15 20 8 Concorde 3 2 5 15 20 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Round 12 — 28/29 June

SOUTHERN DIVISION

Adelaide Hellas vs Brisbane City

Hindmarsh Stadium SUNDAY 2.30 pm

Southern Division Youth Game:

Brighton vs Frankston Pines V.T.B.A.



GEORGE KONSTANDOPOULOS



TOMMY CUMMING

Green Gully vs Sunshine George Cross

Green Gully Reserve 3pm SUNDAY

Youth Game:

Green Gully vs Sunshine Geo. Cross at 12.45 pm

Brunswick Utd Juventus vs Melb Croatia

Olympic Park No.1 3pm SUNDAY

Youth Game:

Brunswick Juventus vs Melbourne Croatia at 12.45pm



MIKE PETERSEN



RICHARD MIRANDA

Heidelberg Alexander vs Sth Melb Hellas

Olympic Village 3pm SUNDAY

Youth Game:

Heidelberg vs Sth Melbourne at 12.45pm

Footscray JUST vs Adelaide City Juventus

Schintler Reserve 3pm SUNDAY

Youth Game:

Footscray JUST vs Nunawading City at 12.45pm



ZDRAVKO LUJIC



STEVE SMITH

Brisbane Lions vs Preston Makedonia

Richlands 3pm SUNDAY

Southern Division Youth Game:

Fawkner vs Preston V.T.B.A.

NORTHERN DIVISION

Newcastle Rosebud Utd vs Sydney City
at Adamstown Oval 2.30pm SATURDAY

Canterbury M'ville vs Sydney Olympic
at Sydney Athletic Field 3pm SUNDAY

Marconi vs Wollongong City
at Marconi Stadium 3pm SUNDAY

Inter Monaro vs A.P.I.A. Leichhardt
at Seiffert Oval 3pm SUNDAY

Blacktown City vs Canberra City
at Gabbie Stadium 3pm SUNDAY

St George vs Sydney Croatia
at St George Stadium 3pm SUNDAY

Ansett.

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